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DISPATCED A B COTTEE.

THE RELEASE OF

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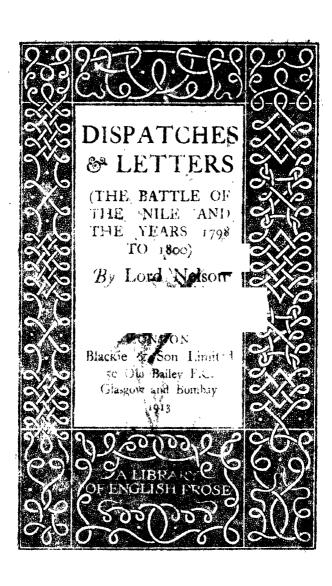
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## INTRODUCTION

Horatio, Viscount Nelson (1758-1805), was born in a Norfolk parsonage. He entered the Navy in 1770. but his health was so uncertain that it was long doubtful whether he could continue in the second. His early voyages to the West Irdies, brought him acquainted with Mrs. Nisbet, whom he married in 1787. In an artack on Corsica he lost his right eve (1794); his right arm he lost in 1797. In 1796 he was made Commodore, and his action in the battle of Cape St. Vincent (1797) was a chief cause of the victory. In 1798, after a long search, he discovered the French fleet at Aboukir, and won the battle of the Nile, when only two ships escaped; for which he was created Baron Nelson of the Nile. After this, he returned to Naples, and became intimate with Sir William and Lady Hamilton; on his return to England he separated from his wife. In 1802 he was made Vice-Admiral, and won the battle of Copenhagen, for which he was created Viscount Nelson; he now lived with the Hamiltons when on shore. From 1803 to 1805 he warched the French fleet at scalon without intermission, a time of great hardship, hally Villeheuve cluded him and sailed for the West Indies, Nelson after him, but delayed by weather. On the return of the French, Nelson met them at Trafalgar, where he gained a complete victory and was killed himself (1805). He lies buried in St. Paul's with Wellington.

This is not the place to discuss Nelson's achievements

#### THE HATTLE OF THE NILE

hs a strategie or tactician. He was not the only great edmiral of our race, but the chief of a long line, each of whom did his pa t in the development of naval warfare. He learnt his art by practice, but he had great teachers to show him the way. Nor is it the place to discuss his faults. It is enough to say that he was the ideal leader; supreme both as seaman and as fighting man, beloved by all his comrades both high and low, ever loyal to his king. The letters give the most vivid picture of the man; they show forth the fiery' devotion to duty which was his ruling passion, never flagging or failing in sickness or in health, in good or evil report. They show also the secret of the love which his contrades bore him; they loved him because he was always working for their honour and welfare, careful of their health in the smallest detail, and ready to take fire if any neglected their claims. His last signal was the epitome of his life, the inspiration of a moment which will never fail to inspire our nation so long as it has in it a spirit worthy of respect.

This volume is taken from Sir Harris Nicolas's Dispatches and Letter of Lord Piscount Nelson (Colbourn), Vol. III. The first letter was written in May, 1798, when Nelson was watching for the French fleet; and the last in 1800, when, after having destroyed it, he gave up his command. There is also included an account of the battle of the Mile; chiefly from the marrative of Captain Sir Edward Berry. A few slips have been corrected in the letters.

ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY

# Dispatches and Letters of Lord Nelson

#### To the Earl of " Vincent

Vanble , of Cap Sich, Mr 17th, 1798.

Mr Lord, This morning, the Terpy hor captured a small From h corvette, of ax come, and saxty-fore men, which came out of Toulon a q o'clock in a right. From the general reports of result spoken, you will observe the unifermity of the reports-viz, that an expedition is preparing to sail from Toulon. We have separately examined the ciew of this corrette, and, from the whole, I believe the tollowing may be depended on as near the truth-that Buona, after arrived at Toulon fast he day, and has examined the troops which are daily embarking in the numerous transports; that vessels with troops frequently arrive from Marseilles; it is not generally believed that Buonaparte is to embark, but no one knows to what place the armament is destined. Fifteen sall of the line are apparently ready for sea, but nineteen are in the harbour, and yet it is said only six sail of the

The last to haif with the transports now ready; that about it note men are embarked, their cavalry arrived, at Toulong but I cannot learn that any are yet embarked. Reports say they are to sail in a few days, and others that they will not sail for a fortnight. This corvette was bound to the westward, I believe, with dispatches, but the Commander denies it.

The Admiral Brueys has his flag in L'Orient, 120 guns! Le Formidable and Spastanade, of 80 guns, are also flag-ships. The Venetian ships are considered as very bad in every respect, but I do not learn that the fleet is deficient in either men or stores. All this information is but little more than you knew when I left you, but, still, knowing that late information of the state of the enemy's fleet is very desirable, I send an intelligent young man. Mr. Charles Harford, who has just served his time, with this letter, and I beg leave to recommend him to your motice. You may rely, my Lord, that I shall act as occasions may offer, to the best of my abilities, in following up your ideas for the honour of His Majesty's arms, and the advantage of our country, and believe me, your Lordship's obedient servant, HORATIO NELSON.

I saw three French frigates this afternoon, but as they did not see the squadron, I am in hopes of getting near them. The squadron is as I wish them,

# Fo Lady Nesson

"Island of St. Pagers, in Sardinia,"
May 24, 1798.

My DEAREST FANNY, I ought not to call what has happened to the Vanguard by the cold name of accident: I believe firmly, that it was the Almighty's goodness, to check my consummate vanity. I hope it has made me a better officer, as I feel confident it has made me a better man. I kis with all humility the rod.

Figure to yourself a vain man, on Sunday evening at sunset, walking in his cabin with a squadron about him, who looked up to their chief to lead them to glory, and in whom this chief placed the firmest reliance, that the proudest ships, in equal numbers, belonging to France, would have bowed their flags! and with a very rich prize lying by him. Figure to yourself this proud, conceited man, when the sun rose on Monday morning, his ship dismasted, his fleet dispersed, and himself in such distress, that the meanest frigate out of France would have beers. very unwelcome guest. But it has pleased Almighty God to bring us into a safe port, where, although we are refused the rights of humanity, yet the Vanguard will in two days get to sea again, as an English man-of-war.

The exertions of Sir James Saumarez, in the Orion, and Captain A. Ball, in the Alexander, have been wonderful; if the ship had been in England, months would have been taken to send her to sea; here, my operations will not be delayed four days; and I shall join the rest of my fleet on the readenvous.

#### STOMBUR EARL OF ST. VINCENT

If the Spencer, telling him that the Vanguard is fitted in the Spencer, telling him that the Vanguard is fitted increasely for sea, and that what has happened will not retard my operations. We are all (in) health and, good humour: tell Lady Saumarez Sir James never was in better health. With kind love to my Father, believe me ever your affectionate hishand, Horatto Nison.

## To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Variuari, Island of St. Peter in Set inta-Mat 24th, 1"98.

My Lord, I am sorry to be obliged to inform you of the accidents which have happened to the Vanguard. On saturday, May the 19th, it I we strong from the N. On Sunday it moderated o much, as or enable us to get on op-gallon masts and yacc aloft. After dirk it began to blow strong; but as the ship was propored for a gale, my mind was easy. At half-past one ... in on Monday, the re-un-top mast went over the side, 4. did soon afterwards the mizen mast. As it was impossible for any night-signal to be seen, I had hopes we should be quiet till daylight, when I determined to went, and seud before the gale; but about half-rast three the fore mast went in three pieces, and the bowspiit was found to be sprung in three places. When the day broke, we were fortunately enabled to wear the ship with a remmant of the sprit-sail. The Orion, Alexander, and Emerald wore with us; but the Terpsichore, Benne Citoyenne, and a French Smyrnz ship con-

# TO THE EARL OF STATINCE

tinued to lay to under bare poles. Our situation was 25 leagues south of the islands of Hieres; and as we were laying with our head to the N.E.; had we not wore, which was hardly to be expected, the ship must have drifted to Corsica. The gale blew very hard all the day, and the ship laboured most exceedingly. In the evening, being in latitude 40° 50' N., I determined to steer for Oristan Bay, in the Island of Sardinia: during side right, the Emerald parted company, for what reason I am at presents magguainted with. Being unable to get into Oristan, the Alexander took us in row, and by Captain Ball's unremitting attention to our distress, and by Sir. James Saumarez's exertions and ability in finding out the Island of St. Peter's, and the proper anchorage, the Vanguard was, on May the 23rd, at noon, brought safely to an anchor into the harbour of St. Peter's -I have the honour to be, &c., HORATIO NELSON.

# To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Vougortil, at Sea, May 28th, 1298. 22

My Lord, In my last letters of May 24th, I acquainted you of our arrival at St. Peter's, and I have now the pleasure to inform you that, by the indefatigable exertions of the captains of the Orion, Alexander, and Vanguard, and the great ability of Mr. James Morrison, carpenter of the Alexander, the Vanguard was completed for sea on the 26th at hight, and that I sailed on the 27th at daylight, to proceed on the service you were pleased to instrust to my direction. As your Lordship will observe the state of the Vanguard on her arrival at

that the the was firted under the advice of the cappenter of the Alexander, an old and frithful seriant of the Crown, and who has been near thirty years a warranted carpenter; and I beg most carnestly, that your Lordship will have the goodness to recommend M. Morrison to the pasticular notice of the Board of Admirity.—I have the honeur to remain, Sen, Horatto Nation.

# To His Excellency Su William Hamilton, K.B.

" gu id, ch Flba, ] - 2 H, 1798.

My DEAR Six, It he i notes sloop of war has airrived at Naples, you will kn w that the Braish fleet is in the Mediterrescing a that I have the honour of command a to be her large a misfertune that a fleet was no induce a fortright sooner, but, po blame attach s it est anywher, and from Sn Rosa Curtis' junction with Lord or Vincent, we me much sooner on the coast of Italy than could have been expected. But I have we are in good time to save Naples or Sicily from I ling into the hands of the enemy. I beg you will usture the King and Queen of Naples that I will not lose one moment in fighting the French fleet, and that no person can have a more ardent desire of serving them and of fulfilling 'the orders of the good and great King, our Master. As I am not quite clear, from General Acton's letters to you of April and oth, what co-operation is

intended by the Court of Naples, I wish to know particulty what is to be expensed, that I may regulate may movements accordingly, and beg clear answers to the following questions and requisitions:—

Are the ports of Naples and Sicily open to his Majesty's fleet? Have the Governors tides for our free admission? and for us to be supplied with what-

ever we may want?

' If it is convenient, I much wish for some frigates and other fast-sailing vessels, for, by a fatality, all mine have left me. I want information of the French fleet; for I hope they have passed Naples I want good pilots—say six or eight, for the coast of Sicily, the Adriatic, or for whatever place the enemy's fleet may be at; for I mean to follow them if they go to the Black Sea. As the 12,000 men had not sailed from Genea on the 2nd of June, nor, indeed, were they all embarked, I trust, if the French are landed in the Neapolitan territory, that the kingdom will not be lost in a few days; for I again repeat, that when it is considered that the orders for a fleet to go into the Mediterranean were only dated May 2nd, and that Sir R. Curtis only came in sight of Lord St. Vincent on May 24th, on which moment Captain Troubridge was sent away with the detachment to join me off Cape Sicie, the British fleet is much sooner on the coast of Italy than could have been expected at this season of the year.

I trust to your Excellency's goodness in impressing General Acton with a favourable opinion of my zeal in our Master's service, and although, I most readily admit that many more able sea-officers might have been elected for this service, yet one more anxious

to approve the self a faithful servant to his King is not to be met with, than your Excellency's most obedient semant, Horazio Nelson.

## To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

12th of June, 1"98

As I see no immediate prospect of a letter I shall continue my private one in the form of a diary, which may not be unpleasant to refer the therefore to begin Being so close to the n my, I take the liber y of keeping Orion for a few days. Owing to with of wind I did not pass Cape Coise until this morning, at four we were becaimed. The moment we had passed I sent the Mutine to look into Telamor Bay, which, as all the French troops had not left George the libe, I thought a profible place for the real excuss of a large fleet, and went with the squadron between Monte Christ, and Guilio, he ping the cort point lose on board.

13th or June. Mutine joined, nothing in Le mon. Bay. I are the flect between Plenose and Lea, and Meete Christi, and on the 14th at noce an now off Civic Vicchia; spoke. Tunisher cruter, who reported that he had spoken a Greek, on the 16th, who told him, that on the 4th, he had passed to the French fleet, of about 20 sail, as he thought, off the N.W. end of Sieth, steering to the eastward. An in unknown expectation of meeting with dispatch-boats, he politan cruisers, &c., with letters for me from Niples giving me information.

15th of June. Off the Ponza Islands my hopes of miormation were vain. Not finding a crusser, I shall

send Troubridge into Naples, in the Mutine, to talk with Sir William Hamilton and General Acted. Troubridge possesses my full confidence, and has been my honoured acquaintance of twenty-five years' standing. I only beg that your Lordship will believe, I shall endeavour to prove myself worthy of your selection of me for this highly honourable command. Not a moment shall be lost in pursuing the enemy.—I am, &c., HORATIO NELSON.

## To Earl Spencers

Vanguard, off the Island of Ponza (15th June 1798).

My LORD, Not having received orders from my Commander-in-Chief to correspond with the Secretary of the Admiralty, I do feel myself at perfect liberty to do it, unless on extraordinary occasions, when I shall send copies of my letters to Lord St. Vincent; but as your Lordships must be anxious to hear of us, I take the liberty of acquainting you that Captain Troubridge joined on the 7th, but it was the 12th before we passed Cape Corse. The last account I had of the French fleet, was from a Tunisian cruiser, who saw them on the 4th, off Trapani, in Sicily, steering to the eastward. If they pass Sicily, I shall believe they are going on their scheme of possessing Alexandria, and getting troops to India-a plan concerted with Tippo Sahib, by no means so difficult as might at first view be imagined; but be they bound to the Antipodes, your Lordship may rely that I will lose not a moment in britiging them to action, and endeavour to destroy their transports. I shall send Captain Troubridge on

#### COTTINATE MARKET MILITOR

King of James will send me some frigates; for mine parted company on the 20th of May, and have not joined me since. The whole squadron is remarkably healthy, and perfectly equal to meet the French floer. As I send this before I receive a counts from Napks, it is not in my power to say anything more of the enemy, for I shall make sail and pass the Faro, of Messina the moment Captain Troubridge returns.

Highly honoured as I feel with this very important command, I beg you will believe that I shall endeavour to approve myself worthy of it, and that I am, with the highest respect, your Lordship's most obedient servant, HORATIO NELSON.

I have tak in the liberty of enclosing a letter for Lady Nelson which I bug your Lordship will have the goodness to order to be sent to here-

# To the Right Honourable Sir William Hamilton, K.B.

I anguard, at Sea, 18th June, 1798

My DEAR SIR, I would not lose one moment of the breeze, in answering your letter. The best sight (as an Irishman would say) was to see me out of sight; especially, as I had not time to examine the Marquis de Gallo's note to you. I send you an extract of the Admiralty orders to Earl. St. Vincent, by which it would appear as determined to the Calunct, to keep a superior fleet to the shear in the Mediterranean; for the Admirate you have the give no such orders,

west depends on me. I beg, if you think proper," and their Sicilian Majesties, and General Actor, "the they may rest assured that I shall not withdraw the Fing's fleet, but by positive orders, or the impossibility of obtaining supplies. I wish them to depend upon me, and they shall not be disappointed. God forbid that it should so happen, that the enemy escape me and get into any port. You may rely if I am properly supplied, that there they shall remain, a useless body, for this summer. But, if I have the gun and mortar boats, with fire-ships, it, is most probable they may be got at: for, although I hope the best, yet it is proper to be prepared for the worst, (which, I am sure, all the fleet would feel) the escape of the enemy into port. My distress for frigates is extreme; but I cannot help myself, and no one will help me. But, thank God, I sm not apt to feel difficulties. Pray, present my best compliments to Lady Hamilton. Tell her, I hope to be presented to, her crowned with laurel or cypress. But God is good, and to Him do I commit myself and our cause.—Ever believe me, my dear Sir, your obliged and faithful Horario Nelson.

# To George Baldwin, Esq., Consul at Alexandria

44

June 24th, 1798.

DEAR SIR, I am so persuaded of the intention of the French to attempt driving us from India, in concert with Tippo Sahib, that I shall never feel secure till Mangalore, and all Tippo's sea-coast, is in our possession. We ought to get hold of the coast, even at the

makes, he should have not my head before Mangalore, or one fact of coast. I send you some reviews and magazones—they may be pleasant, though old; and if I can get near to such the first, and am favoured with the numbers' conversation, I shall have great pleasure in appring you with anything in my power; for hence in a dear bir, your nost-obedient servant; Horatio Net on

## To Admiral the Earl St. Vincent, K.B.

Vanpeard, at Ses, June 29th, 1798.

My Lord, Although I rest confident, that my intentions will always with you have the most favourable interpretations, yet where success does not crown an other's plan, it is absolutely necessary that he would explain the motives with actuate his conduct, and theretor; I shall the enem as briefly as possible.

Captain Troubinder joined me on the 7th of June From calms, it was the 12th before I got round Cape Corse; (I must here state, that I had nothing in the shape of a frigate except the Mutine brie). I then sent the Mutine to how into Telamon Bay, which, as all the French troops hid not left Genoa on the 6th, I thought a provide place for the rendezvous of a large fleet, for, eurpletely it forant as I was of the destination of the enemy, I felt it my duty to take every precontion not to pass them. On the 13th the Mucine looked into Telamon Bay, but found nothing there. I ran the fleet between Plenosa, Elba, and Monte Christi, and on the 14th, at noon, was off Cività Veccina, when we worke a Tunisian cruiser,

who reperted that he had spoken a Greek on the troth, who cold him that on the 4th, he had passed through the French fleet of the N.W. feed of Sicily. steering to the eastward' From this moment I was in anxious xpectation of meeting with dispatch-holds, Neapolitan cruisers, &c., with letters for me from Naples, giving me every information I could desire, but my hopes were vair. On the 15th, I made the Ponza Islands, where no miding a cruiser, I sent Captain Troubridge in the Muting to talk with Sir William Hamilton and General Acton, and to state

my discress for frurtes.

On the 1-th, in the Bat of Naples, I received my first letter from Sn W'lliam Hamilton, and in two hours Captain Troubrille 1 mined with information. that the brench fleet were oil Multa on the 8th, roing to attack a that Naples was at peace with the Eren h Republic, therefore, could afford us no assistance in ships, but that, under the rose, they would got us the use of their ports, and since ety wished as well but did not give me the mallest information of what was, or kell to be, the future destination of the French ain ament. With this conferrable account, I pushed for the Faro of Messina. On my way I heard of the Prench landing in Malta, and that on Tuesday the firth they had taken the old city: that the fleer was anchored between Gozo and Malta. On the 70th, off Messina, the English Consul came on board to tell me that Malta had surrendered on the 15th, the Russian Minister having arrived the day before from Malta, when the intelligence came over, but I received not the small st information or natice from the Sicilian Government. Keeping the Sicilian ( 450 )

shore on born, on the 21st, I was off Syracusa. and housted our colours. A hust in the evening rowed our about a mile, but although I brought to and tent the Mutine inshore, she rowed back again. On the 22nd, in the morning, being off Cape Parsain, the Mutme spoke a brig which sailed from Malia the day! before. The Master reported that Malta surrend and on Priday, the 15th of June, and that on Saturday, the 6th, the whole French Heet left it, is was supposed for Sunly: that a French gar is n was left in the town. and the I rench colours flying. The wind at this time was blowing strong from the WNW., the vessel had been spoken to three hours before, all was gone out of my reach I could not get to Malta till it moderated, and then I might at no better information. This marted, I had to make use of my judgment, with it formation from Naples, that they were at peace with the French Republic, that General Buonaparte I ad cent on shore to bierly, that the King of Naples need not be alleated at the French armament, for it had not Sicily for its object. It was also certain the Sicilian Government were not alarmed or they would the sent off 'me Trecalled all the circumstances of this armune it before me, 40,000 troops in 28% transports, many hundred pieces of artillery, wagons, dirught borses, cardly, unforers, naturalists, astronomers, mathematicians, &c. The first rendezvous in case of separation was Bistin, the second Malta, -- this armament could not be necessary on aking possession of Malty The Neapolitan Ministers considered Naples and Sicily as safe; Spain, after Malta, or indeed any place to the westward, I could not think their destination, for at this season the westerly winds so strongly

prevail between Sicily and the coast of Barbary, that I conceive it almost impossible to get a fleet of thansports to the westward. It then became the serious question, where are they gone? (Here I had deeply to reg et my want of frigates and I desire it may be understood, that if one hill the frigates your Lordship had ordered under my command had been with me, I could not have wanted information of the French fleet.) If to Continuation of the French (which they knew from Niples on the 12th or 13th), they were arrived by this time, the 22nd.

Upon their whol proceedings, tog ther with such information is I have been table to collect, it appeared clear to inc, that either they were destined to assist the ribel. Pacha and to overshow the present Governing to open a trade to India by way of the Red Sea; for, strange as it may appear at hist sight, an enterprising enemy, if they have the force or consent of the Pacha of Paypt, may with great ease get an army to the Red Sea, and if they have concreted a plan with I ippo Sahib, to have vessels at Suez, three weeks at this season, is a common passage to the Malabar coast, when our Indian possessions would be in great danger.

I therefore determined, with the opinior of the Se Captains in whom I place great confidence, to 50 to Alexandria; and if that place, or any other pair of Egypt was their destination, I hoped to arrive time enough to frustrate their plans. The only objection I can fancy to be started is, "you should not have gone such a long voyage without more certain information of the enemy's destination": my answer is

# THE BATTLE OF THE NILE

ready Affairs was I to get it from ! The Governments of Naples and Sicily either knew to not, or chose to heep in the ignorance. Was I to wait patiently till. I heard certain accounts! If Egypt was their object, before I could hear of them they would have been in India. To do nothing, I felt, was disgraceful; therefore I made use of my understanding, and by it I bught to stand or fall. I am before your Lordships judgment (which in the present case I feel is the tribunal of my country), and if, under all circumstances, it is decided that I am wrong, I ought, for the sake of our country, to be superseded; for, at this moment, when I know the French are not at Alexandria, I hold the same opinion as off Cape Passaroviz., that under all circumstances, I was right in steering for Alexandria, and by that opinion I must stand or fall. However erroneous my judgment may be 1 feel conscious of my honest intentions, which I hope will bear me up under the greatest misfortune that could happen to me as anyofficer-that of your Lordship's thinking me wrong I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, your Lordship's most obedient pervant, HORATIO NELSON.

## The Battle of the Nile

As Nelson's Dispatch states the result, rather than describes the Battle of the Nile, it is desirable to prefix to his official letter the narrative of the battle written by his Captain, Sir Edward Berry, and published immediately after the event. To that narrative some particulars will be added from other sources.

# THE BATTLE OF THE NILE

"From Syracuse the squadron proceeded with all expedition to the Morea; and nothing particular occurred on the passage, except that on the 28th of July, being near the Morea, the Culloden was sent into he Gulf of Coron for intelligence; and on her return, the next day, she brought with her a French bug, a prime, and information that the enemy's fleet had been seen steering to the S.E. from Candia about four weeks before The Alexander, Captain Ball, on the same day obtained similar intelligence from a vessel passing close to the fleet, and Nelson hore lown under all sail for Alexandria. At seven in the evening of the 31st of July the Almiral made a signil for the fleet to close, and early in he moining of the 1st of August the Alexander and Swittsure we escut aheid to look out." And "at 10 a m, the Alexander made a signal supposed for the lind, al the first in company. At I place wif Alexander beining S.E. seven or eight leagues. At half-post 2 re allor the Alexano a and Svilthure. At half-part hank I our wind, unboot the best bow i cible, tick it cut of the stern port and bent it coun At 4, Pl 1 > Low 1 > SW is tant four or live at Larry that I does pitch the signal for the Freich fleet six teen sail of the line. At 5 bent up for the kinn h flect" (Van uaid's Journal) "The atmost jet , 12's Captur Berry, "second to animate every breas on board the squadion, it the sight of the enems, and the plea are which the Admiral lumsely felt, was perhaps more heightened than that of my other men, is he had now a certainty by which he could regulat-his future operations. The Admiral had, and it ap-peared most justly, the highest opinion of, and plaged the firmest reliance on, the valour and conduct of every

#### A THE BATTLE (F THE NILE

Associo na his squad-on. It had been his practice during the whole of the cruse, whenever the weather and circumstances would permit, to have his Captains on board the Vanguard; where he would fully develop to them his own ideas of the different and best modes of attack, and such plans as he proposed to execute roon falling in with the enemy, whatever their position or situation might be, by day or by night. There was no describle position in which they could be found, that he did not take into his calculation, and for the mosad infaceous attack of which he had not do ested and saranged the beat possible disposite of the torce which he companded. With ite nastely ideas of their Admird, therefore, on the subject of haval tactics, every one of the Chrisms of the squidron was most thoroughly acquainter, ad it is surveying the same tion of the . my, the pull ascertain with precision what were the class is a ntentions of their commander, without the aid a any further area utions; by which means signification in the innecessary, much time WAS YOU IT Atten on of every Captain could abmost in setelly be jud to the conduct of his own parties . Jup; a cr unstance from which, upon this occasion, call amazes to the peneral service were almost incalcutable is monot be light thought irrele runt to give whe ide of the plant which Admiral Nelson has formed, and which he explained to his Captains with such perspicuity, as to render his ideas completely then own. Had he fallen in with the Freuch feet at sea, that he might make the best impre-sion upon any par of it that should appear the most vulnorable, or the most eligible for attack, he divided ais force into three sub-squadrons: viz.-

Vanguard :	'Orien	Cullodea
Minotaur	Goliath	Theseus
Leander	Majestic	Alexander,
Audacious	Belle rophon	8 Mittsure . #
Defence	•	
Zealous		

Two of the sub-squadrons were to attack the ships of war, while the third was to pursue the transports, and to sink and destroy as many as it could. The destination of the French umanient was involved in doubt and uncertainty; but it frigibly struck the Admi al, that as it wis commanded by the man whom the French h d dignific I with the title of the Conqueror of Iraly, and as he had with him a very large body of toots, in expedition by be p planned which the land three might execute authorit the fill of the flee should the transports be minuted to make their escape and reach i co dar due of reader sus; it therefore because the a creat consideration with the Admiral co to anange his thic as at once to engage he whole attention of the was of war, and at the same tune mate tally to a may and inpute their convoy. It will be fully admitted, from the subsequent information which has been received upon the subject, that the ideas of the Admiral upon this occasion were perfectly just, and that the plan which he had arra god was the most like'y to frustritt the designs of the enemy. It is almost unnecessary to explain his projected mode of attack at anchor, as that was minutely and precisely executed in the action which we now come to describe. These plans, however, were formed two months before an opportunity presented itself of executing any

#### WHEN SEATTING OF THE MILE

was that they were confined to the anderstanding of every Captain in the were twenty to the Pharos of Alexandria at noon on the

1st of August. The Alexander and Swiftsure had been detached ahead on the preceding evening, to reconnoitre the ports of Alexandria, while the main body of the squadron kept in the offing. The enemy's fleet was first discovered by the Zealous, Captain Hood, who immediately communicated by signal the number of ships, sixteen, lying at anchor in line of batrle, in a bay upon the larboard bow, which we afterwards found to be Aboukir Bay. The Admiral hauled his wind that instant, a movement which was immediately observed and followed by the whole squadron; and at the same time he recalled the Mexander and Swiftsure. The wind was at this time N.N.W., and blew what seamen call a top-kallant breez. It was necessary to take in the coyals when we hau! -d upon a wind. The Admiral made the signal to prepare for battle, and that it was his intention to attack the enemy's van and centre, as they las at anchor, and according to the plan before developed. It's idea in this disposition of his force was, first to secure the rictory, and hen to make the most of it according to future circumstances. A bower cable of each ship was immediately got abatt, and bent forward. We continued carrying sail, and standing in for the enemy's fleet in a close lim of lattle. As all the officers of our squadron were totally unacquainted with Aboukir Bay, each ship kept sounding as she stood in. The enemy appeared to be moored in a strong and compact line of battle, close in with the shore, their line describing an obtuse angle in its form.

#### E SATTLE OF THE NILE

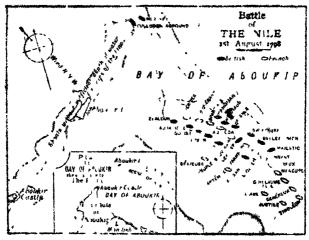
numerous gun-boats, four frigates, and a second for guns and mortars on an island in their wan. The situation of the enemy greened to secure them the most decided advantages, as they had nothing to attend to but their artillery, in their substitutions skill in the use of which the French so much piles themselves, and to which indeed their splendid series of land victories are

in great measure to be imputed.

"The position of the enemy presented the most formidable obstacles; but the Aumiral viewed these with the eye of a seaman determined on attack, and it instantly struck his eager and penetrating mind, that where there was room for an enemy's ship to swing, there was room for one of ours to anchor. No further signal was necessary than those which had already been made. The Admiral's designs were as fully known to his whole squadron, as was his determination to conquer, or perish in the attempt. The Goliath and Zealous had the honour to lead inside, and to receive the first fire from the van ships of the enemy, as well as from the batteries and gun-boats with which their van was strengthened. These two ships, with the Orion, Audacious, Theseus, took their stations inside of the enemy's line, and were immediately in close action. The Vanguard anchored the first on the outer side of the enemy, and was opposed within half pistol-shot to the Le Spartiate, the third in the enemy's line. In standing in, our leading ships were unavoidably obliged to receive into their bows the whole fire of the broadsides of the French line, until they could take their respective stations; and it is but justice to observe, that the enemy received us with great firmness and deliberation, no colours having been hoisted on either si

#### THE BATTLE OF THE NILF

not a gun fired, till our van ships were within half gunshou. It this time the necessary number of our man were employ I aloft in furling sals, and on deck, in hading the bisses, &c., preparatory to our casting anchor. As soon as this took place, a most animated



I'AN OF HE BATTLE OF THE WHEE

fire was opened from the Vanguard, which ship covered the approach of those in the rear, which were following in a close line. The Milippaur, Defence, Bellerophon, Majestic, Swiftsure, and Alexander came up in succession, and passing within hail of the Vanguard, took their respective stations opposed to the enemy's line. All our ships anchored by the stern, by which means the British line became inverted from van to rear. Captain Thompson, of the Leander, of 50 gains, with

a degree of skill and intrepidity highly honourable to his professional character, ad ancid towards the enemy's line on the outside, and most judgicusty dropped his anchor athwart hause of Le Franklin, takfilly her with great success, the shot from the Leander's broadside which passed that ship all striking L'Orient, the flagship of the French Communder-in-Chief.

"The action commenced at sunset, which was at 31 minutes past 6 pm., with an adour and virgour which it is impossible to describe. At about seven o'clock total darkness had come on, but the whole, hemisphere was with intervals illuminated by the fire of the hostile fleets. Our shi, s, when darkness came oh, had all hoisted their distribution lights, by a signal from the Admiral. The van ship of the enemy, Le Guerrier, was dismasted in less than twelve minutes; and in ten minutes after, the second ship, Le Conquerant, and the third, Le Spartiste, very nearly at the same moment were almost dismantled. L'Aquidon and Le Souverain Penple, the fourth and fifth ships of the enemy's line, were taken possession of by the British at half-past eight in the evening. Captain Berry as the hour sent Licur ant Galway, of the Vanguard, with a party of marines, to take possession of Le Spaniate; and that officer returned by the boat the breach Captain's sword, which Captain Berry imma vitely delivered to the Admiral, who was then bein consequence of the severe wound which he had ceived in the head during the locat of the attack. this time it appeared that victory had already declared itself in our favour; for although I 'Orient, L'Heureux, and Tormant were not taken possession of, they were considered as completely in our power, which pleasing

#### THE SATTLE OF THE PILE

Captain Berry had likewise the satisfac-tion of communicating in person to the Admiral. At ten minutes after nine a fire was observed on board L'Orient, the Freuch Admiral's ship, which seemed to proceed from the after pair of the cabin, and which increased with great rapidity, presently in along the whole of the after part of the ship in flames. circumstance Captain Berry immediately communicated to the Admiral, who, though suffering severely from his wound, came up on deck, where the first consideration that st uck his mind was concern for the danger of so meny lives, to save as many as possible of whom he ordered Captain Berry to make every practicable exertion. A boat, the only one that could swim, was instantly disparch i from the Vanguard, and other ships that were in a coud too i to do so, immediately followed the example; of which means from the best possible in brimation, the nins of about in entry Frenchmen were saved. The light thrown by the fire of L'Orient upon the surrounding objects enabled us to perceive with more certainty the situation of the two fleets, the colours of both being clearly distanguishable. The cannottading was partially kept up to leeward of the centre till about to a o'clock, when L'Orient blew to with a most tremendous explosion. An awful paose and death like silence for shout three minures ensued. when the wire k of the masis, yards, &c., this had been carried to a vast heigh, fell down into the water and on board the surrounding skips. A post fire from L'Orient file i to the main royal of the Alexander, the fire occasioned by which was, however, extinguished in about two immutes by the active exertions of Captain

# THE BATTLE OF THE NILE

"After this awful scene the fire was recommenced with the ships to leaward of the centre, till twenty mirutes past ten, when there was a total constion of firing for about ten minutes; after which it, was revived till about three in the morning, when it again ceased. After the victory had been secured in the van, such British ships as were in a condition to move had gone down upon the fiesh ships of the enemy, which occasioned these renewals of the fight, all of which terminated with the same happy success in favour of our At five minutes past five in the morning, the two rear ships of the memy, Le Guilleume Tell and Le Genéreux, were the only French ships of the line that had then colours flying. At fifty-rour minutes past hie a French frigate, L'Artemise, fired a broadside and struck her colours; but such was the unwarrantable and infamous conduct of the French Captain, that after having thus surrendered, he set fire to his ship and wit's part of his crew made his compe on shore. And her of the French frigates, La servise, had been Birk by the file from some of our ships, but as her polit remained above water, her men were sived upon it, and sore taken off by our boats in the making. The Belletophon, whose mas, and cables had been enturely shot away, could not retain her situation abreast of L'Orient, tu nad bifted out or the line to the lee side of the Bay a little before that him blew up. The Andae 2.5 was in the morning detached to her assistance. Aceleven o'clock Le Généraux and Guiltiume Tell, with no frigares, La Justice and La Diane, cut their caoles and stood out to sea, pursued by the Zealous, Captun Hood, who, as the Admiral himself has stated, he misomely endeavoured to prevent their escape; but as

The whole day of the and the strict the whole day of the and this child the was retailed. The whole day of the and this child the was retailed. The whole day of the and strict, and which were all now completely in our possession. Le Tonnant and Timoleon excepted; as these were both dismissted, and consequently could not escape, they were naturally the last of which we thingen of taking possession. On the morning of the 300 the Timoleon was set fire to, and Le Tonnant had cut hely cable and drifted on shore; but that active officer, Captain Miller of the Theseus, soon gor her off again, and secured her in the British line. The British force engaged consisted of 12 shops of 74 gurs, and the Leander of 50.

"From the over-anxiety and zeal of Captain Troubridge to get into action, his ship, the Culloden, in standing in for the van of the enemy's line, unfortual nately grounded upon the tail of a shoal running in from the island on which were the mortar and gain batteries of the enemy; and notwithstanding all the exertions of that able officer and his ship's company she could not be got off. This unfortunate circumstance was severeld felt at the moment by the Admiral and all the officers of the squadron; but their feelings were nothing compared to the anxiety and even anguish of mind which the Captain of the Culloden aimself experienced for so many eventful hours. There was but one consolation that could offer itself to him in the midst of the distresses of his situation—a feeble one it is true—that his ship served as a beacon for three other ships, viz., the Alexander, Theseus, and Leander, which were advancing with all possible sail not close in his rear, and which otherwise might have experienced a similar mistorune.

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end thus in a greater proportion still have weakened war force. It was not till the morning of the 2nd that the Culloden could be got off, and it was found she had affered very considerable damage in her burbon, that her rudder was beat off, and the crew, could scarcely keep her affeat with all pumps going. The resources of Captain Troubridge's mind availed him much, and were admirably exerted upon this trying occasion. In man days he had a new rudder more up meh's own lock, which was immediately shop a; and the Cultivien was again in a scare to active service, though still very leaky.

"The Adm is, known; the is wounded at his own ships had been were taken care of, lent by arrention to those of the enemy. He established a fruce with the Commandant of About 1, and through him made a communication to the Communican or Alexdire, that it was by intention is allow all the vounded Frenchmen to be taken a trace proper here parily with their own so geons to artend them - 1 mospositi which was esented to by the brench, and wecarned into effect on the following day and generous consideration of Captain Tombridge and train excited at this time for the general mod. He communicated with the shore, and had the address of procure a supply of fresh regetables, onton, &c., which were served out to the sick and wounded, and which proved of essential utility. On the 2nd of Augus, the Arehand Mamelukes, who during the battle had lined shores of the bay, saw with transport that the victory was decisively ours, an event in which they participated with an exultation-almost equal to our own and on that and the two following nights the whole

#### I BATTLE OF THE NILE

sease and some were illuminated as far as we could see, in celebra: 'out cictoy This had a great effect uppn the male of a consoners, as they considered by many many was the consequence, not entirely of a rate of the consoners of aladvantage obtained by he subtantially a definitive over homeoparte.

"Annoy," "the electric state the time and attention of the Adia is not 1) the officers of his end i were two employed it repairing the damages while enemy who is the realism in secting, those of the enemy who is the realism and subdued, yet the mindebt that each look during felt the strongest emotions of the montpuls are twice togethe Supreme to my for the signal section, which, by His Divine work, had now in the ause of a count and, in my quies, if the morning of the 21 is he is possible to the quid on.

V nguera, a ne Mouth of the Nile, and day of August, 1748.

the Administration of the Majesty's arms with viewry, the Administration of the same at two outers as the first terminal every ship doing the same as a second entalliance in Horasio Nelson

At 2 o'clock according y on that day, public service was performed on the quarter-deck of the Vanguard by the Roy M. Comin, the other ships following the example of the Admiral, though perhaps not all it the same time."

# To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B., Commander-in-Chief

Varg ir, " the Mouth of the Mis, 3 i August, 1791

My Lorg, Almighty God his 11 s d his Muesty's arms in the lat sattle by a gent victory over the fleet of the entiny I this id at sunset on the 1st of Argust, off the nouth of the Nic. The enemy were moored in a st on, the of at let let n ling the entrance of the bay of the sh), flanked by sumerous panboats, four he sic a bat sy of an "and morta on an Island in their vir, an inclaim of the hound the squadron which can "car'shi dom the horour to place under year and It has the of descipline is will-knew te'yo, ail vin i pi meit of the Capt ns, teached with the valour, a or hat of the officers and men of every a ration, it we alsolutely are istable for any time of me my pen add to the character of the liptum, I would write it with pleisure, but that is a cossible

Thave to regiet ' los of Centen Westcort of the Majestic, who was kill dearly at eval, but the ship continued to be so will for I by her Int Lieu tenant, Mr Cuthpert, that I have a nohim in order to command till your Lordstop optisitie is known

The thips of the enemy, all but ther two r at ships, are nearly dismasted, and they two with their friggers, I am sorry to say, made thin escape; nor wis it, I passure you, in my power to prevent them. Captain Hood most handsomely endeavoured to do it, but I had (0450)

#### LOG THE CAPTAINS DATES MAINTENES MAINTE

The support and assistance I have received from Captain Berry cannot be sufficiently expressed. I wounded in the head and obliged to be carried off the deck; but the service suffered no loss by that events Captain Berry was fully equal to the important service then going on, and to him I must beg leave to tent you for every information relative to this victory. He will present you with the flag of the Second in Command, that of the Commander-in-Chief being burnt in L'Orient.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's

most obedient servant, HORATIO NELSONE

# To the Captains of His Majesty's Ships off the Nile

Vanguagit, magiant grd, 1798.

Gentlemen, I feel most sensibly the very distinguished honour conferred upon me by your Address of this day. My prompt decision was the natural consequence of having such Captains under my command, and I thank God I can say, that in the battle the conduct of every officer was equal. I accept, as a particular mark of your esteem, the sword you have done me the honour to offen, and will direct my picture to be painted the first opportunity, for the purpose you mention.—I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, with the highest respect, your most obliged Honour Nelson.

#### to sik wilkiam hamilton

## To Evan Nepean, Esq., Admirate

Mostrh of the Nife, Ah August, 138. Sin. Herewith I have the honour to transmit vou a copy of my letter to the Earl of St." Vincent, together with a line-of-battle of the English and French squadrons, also a list of killed and wounded. "I have the honour to inform you that eight of our ships have already top-gallant yards across, are ready for any service; the others, with the prizes, will soon be ready for sea. In an event of this importance, I have thought it right to send Captain Capel with a copy of my letter (to the Commander-in-Chief) overland, which I hope their Lordships will approve; and I beg leave to refer them to Captain Capel, who is a most excellent officer, and fully able to give every information; and I beg leave to recommend him to their Lordships' notice.—I have the honour to be, &c., HORATIO NELSON.

The Island I have taken possession of, and brought off the two thirteen-inch mortars, all the brass guns, and, destroyed the iron ones.

# To the Right Honourable Sir William Hamilton, K.B.

Vanguard, Mouth of the Nile, 7. 8th August, 1798.

My DEAR SIR, Almighty God has made me the happy instrument in destroying the enemy's fleet, which happe will be a blessing to Europe. You will have the goodness to communicate this happy event to a

#### 2367 TO THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON

The Courts in Italy, for my head is so indifferent that I can scarcely scrawl this letter. Captain Capel, who is charged with my dispatches for England, will give you every information. Pray put him in the quickest mode of getting home. You will not send by post any particulars of this action, as I should he sorry to have any accounts get home before my dispatches. I hope there will be no difficulty in our getting refitted at 'Naples. Culloden must be instantly hove down, and Vanguard all new masts and bowsprit. Not more than four or five sail of the line will probably come to Naples; the jest will go with the prizes to Gibmitar. As this army will never return, I hope to hear the Emperor has regained the whole of Italy .- Withevery mod wish, believe me, dear Sir, your most obliged and affectionate Honarto Nerson.

9th August. I have intercepted all Burnaparte's dispatches going to France. This army is in a scrape, and will not get our of it.

### To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of London

Vanguard, Mouth or the Vile, Sth. August, 1798.

My Lord, Having the honour of being a freeman of the City of London, I take the liberty of sending to your Lordship the sword of the commanding French Admiral, Monstein Blanquet, who survived after the battle of the first, off the Nile; and request, that the City of London will henour me by the acceptance of it, as a remembrance, that Britannia still rules the

#### TO EARL SPENCER

waves, which, that she may ever do, is the servent prayer of your Lordship's most obedient servant, Horatro Neuson,

#### To Earl Spencer

M ith of the Nile, 9th August, 1708.

My Lord, Was I to die at this moment, "Want of Frigates" would be found stamped on my heart. No words of mine can express what I have not am suffering for want of them. Has ng only the Mutine brig, I cannot yet send off toptim Capel, which I am very arisious to acc, for is a accident may happen to a Captain Berry, it is of some importance, I think, for your Lordship to be defined of our success as speedily as possible. If the King of Naples had joined us, nothing it this moment could present the destruction of the store ships, and all the transports, in the port of Alexandria. Jour I omb-vessels would burn the whole in a rew hours; but, as I have not the means, I can only repret the creumstance.

I send you a packet of intercepted letters, some of them of clear importance; it cariticular, one from Buonaprite to his brother. He wiltes such a scrawl, no one not used to it can read; out luckile, we have got a man who wrote in his office, to decipher its Buonaparte has differed with his Generals here; and he did writt—and if I understand his meaning, does want, and will strive to be, the Washington of France. "Ma mère" is evidently meant for "my country". But I beg pardon: all this is, I have no doubt, well known to Administration. I believe our victory will its consequence, destroy this army; at least, in

#### TO THE RIGHT HON. HENRY DUNDAS.

for some time. I have thought it right to send an officer (by Alexandretta, Alexandret

### To the Right Honourable Henry Dundas & ,

Vanguard, No oth of the Nils; oth August, 2748.

Sir, As Prisid in of the Board of Control for India, I have addressed this letter to you: if I count to have sert it to the India Hou e, I request ven will have the goodness to send it to the Chairman of the Company, and that you will excuse the trouble I have given you. I have thought it right to send an officer, Lieutenant Dura' (who very handsomely offered his services), by Alexandretta, Aleppo, and Bussibh, to Bombay, to give all the account I know of the mouse ments of the French arm, and their future intentions. Herewith I send a copy of my letter, and of the orders I have given him to draw money on the East India Company, &c. If I have done wrong, I hope the hills will be paid, and I will repay the Company; for as an Englishman, I shall be proud that it has been in my power to be the means of putting our settlements on their gilard. Mr. Baldwin, not having been for some months at Alexandria, has been a great misfortune.—I have the honour to be, &c., HORARD NELSON.

#### To Evan Nepean Fsq., Admiralty

Vanguard, Mouth of the Nile, A et 16th, 1798.

STR, Six of the prizes sailed yesterday under Sir James Saumarez. Three others, viz. Guetter, Hereux, and Mercure, are in the art of repairing. In this state I received last evening Tarl St. Vincent's most secret orders, and most secret and confidential letters relative to the important operations intended to be pursued in the Medi enanem. Thus storated, it became an impertain part of my duty to do justice between my King a . Country, and the bove officers and men who captured those slops in the battle of the Nile. I would have taken one menth, at least, to have fitted those ships for a passage to Gibriltan, and not only at reat expense to Government, but with the has of the services of at least two sail of the line. recrefore, confident that the Lords Commissioners with under the present circumstances, direct that a tair value shill be paid for those ships, ordered them to be burnt, after saving such stores as would not take too much time, out of them, and I have further thought it my duty to tell the squadron the necessity I am under, for the benefit of the King's ervice, of directing their property to be destroyed, but that I had no doubt but Government would make them a liberal allowance, all which I hope their Late-

# Will approve of.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

# To the Hosourable William Wyndham, Minister at Florence

Vansura, "1st August, 174".

My DEAR SIR, I received three days 170, your letter of June 20th, and I beg leave to thank you for it. I send you a paper which will inform you of he extent of our victory. My health, from my wound, is become so indifferent, that I think of going down the Med terranean, so soon as I arrive at Naples, unles I should find in thing very extraordinary to detain me when my health o no co sequence. The command, in my absence, will devolve on Captait Troubridg, than whom the King his not a better sea officer. S. In Saumarez is on his way to (a raitio, with six of our prizes; the others I burnt, the tre Melterrane n might not be left without ships, for each prize takes a ship of the line to min 1 i, and atter to her wants. This you will belie c, wh n I cli j u that only two mists are stinding, out of nine sail of the line, L'O ient certainly struck her colours, and did not fire e shot tot a quarter of an hour before, untortuantely for us, she now fire, but although we suffer, our count y is equally benefited. She had on load near six hundred thousand pounds striling; so says the Adjutant General of the flect, who was saved out of her, and although he does not say she struck her colours, yet he allows that all resistance on her

part was in variable terminal Brueys was killed tairly in the battle, and from the commencement of the fight, declared all was lost. They were moored in a strong position the line of battle, with gun-boats, bomb-vessels, frigates, and a gun and mortar battery on an illind in their van, but my band of friends was aresistable. In French army is in possessions of Alexandra, Anatha, Rosers, Timetta, and Cairo; and Buopaphite matter in the is sending a decrease in the take possession of Soczana Fayouti

By the intercept of let is from the many (to we took the result of Phonapart's and a) they are a new by a special time only between their mosts (i. n. and bridge beauty home. I have settled a threath many words and bridge and bridge, postilized, and to may soon by their annual let Turke with non-suit to any only a they are the present we by a therefore by a they are some after a with the language of the many other new side in a with the language of the many other new side in a with the language of this world. The Actual by a let a special of the relation of the many of the relation o

sept atc

I del myself so muc' recovered, that it is promitle I shall not go home at present. The Turks have seized all French ships in the Levant, in consequence of the taking a Turkish sixty-gin ship at Alexa idria; and seizing all Turkish property. This was done on the 14th of August. I shall always receive pleasure, in

#### · TO LORD WINTO

# my you, both as a public and private many

### To the Right Honourable Lord Minto

Vanguard, off Rhodes, August 20th, 1798.

My pear Lord, Your affectionate and flattering letter of April 25th, I received on the 14th August, and I assure you that I feel a great comfort on your account that I shall not (I fancy) be thought entirely undeserving of the many handsome things you said of me. You know, my dear Lord, that I bave more than once thought that the Mediterranean fleet has been put into our power to annihilate, therefore I had the advantage of my predecessors. I repret that one escaped, and I think; if it had pleased God that I had not been wounded, not a boat would have escaped to have told the tale; but do not believe that any individual in the fleet is to blame. In my conscience, I believe greater exertions could not have been; and I only mean to say, that if my experience could (in person) have directed those exercions of individuals, there was every appearance that Almighty God would have continued to bless my endeavours for the honour of our King, the advantage of our country, and for the peace and happiness (I hope) of all Europe. It is no small regret that L'Orient is not in being to grace our victory. She was completely beat, and I am sure had struck her colours before she took fire; for as she had lost her main and mizen masts, and on her flagstaff, which Hood out from her wreck, was

no flag, it must be true that the flag was infinited down, on it would have been entangled with the rigging, or some remnant remained at the milithead. She had on board £600,000 setring, in ingots of gold and diamonds, for the French brought no coin with them. I wish you had succeeded in getting bomb-vessels sent with our fleet; then, in 48 hours after the victory, every transport, and all the stores in them, would have been destroyed at Alexandria; for the port is so very small, and so crowded, that not one shell or carcass could have fell amiss.

\* The present situation of the French army is briefly this: they have Rosetta and Damietta, the principal entrances of the Nile, for they can get nothing by land to Cairo over the desert; and as we are in possession of the anchorage of Bequier, between Alexandria and Rosetta, the army can get nothing by water. Apropos, this being the season of the rising and overflowing of the Nile, it is usual for the different Beys to send their people and open the canals in order to obtain water till the return of this season: and this applies very strongly to Alexandria, where they have no water but what comes by the canal and fills their reservoir. Now, unless the French are able to buy the Beys and Bedouins, Alexandria must perish for want of water; and I do not think it improbable but that the garrison must evacuate it, and an endeavour will be made to get the ships arme en flute with the stores out of the harbour; but, as I have left Hood wish three ships of the line and three frigates to unnoy Buom parte. I trust the business will be well attended

depends on the wine we have the freely declare their opinion that the transfer are fit the name, with stores &c., and were to make along the coast as Buonaparte penetrated into fyria. In short, it is hardly possible to calculate what good events may arrive from our victory. I lost not a moment in sending an officer overland to India: (if you see Mr. Drake tell him it is his relation, a very clever young man) for, if Buonaparte should send any troops down the Red Sea, (which now I do not believe he will) was settlements will be prepared. And here I would give an opinion on our last peace with Tippo, that high respect for the officers who made it will not allow me.

I have sent an express to Constantinople, and have urged Mr. Jackson to represent to the Grand Signior, that if he will send a few ships and some bombs, all the transports will be destroyed—if 10,000 men, Alexandria may be retaken; and if he will not send anything, he will lose Syria. We have saved Sicily in spite of Ne polican councils. That Marquis de Gallo is a wretch who minds nothing but fine clothes. his smuff-box and ring, this is the best I can say of him. I am on my way to Naples, where I hope to put matters in a fair train for the advantage of Italy and ourselves. I am hurried from Egypt by Mr. Dundas's letter to Lord St. Vincents if you see him, say that what can be done, shall. Now a word for myself. I doubt if I ought to stay here; my brain is in such a state that rest of mind, if

#### TO KARE SPENCER

that is possible for me, us, the doctors say absolutely necessary. The Portuguese are at Nights ball I doubt it they will either go to Egypt, or even cruse (that is, time I call cruising) for the days. If Naples will give me bombs, I shall either return or send Troubudge to the Guand Sigmor, Naples, and highand do but exit themselves for three month; I only with I had the means in my own power. Now a word for George. He is well; and Foley tells me that he is one of the most active and best youths he has ever met with. Pray present my that respectful term inhances to Lady Minto, and beneve me, my own Lind, ever your most affectionate and ethiged Homero Nilson.

#### To Earl Spencer

Vinguard, "the September, 1798.

My Lorn, On the 15th August, I received Earl St. Vincent's most secret c ders and letters. As not a moment was to be lest, I determined to destroy the three prizes (Guerrier, Herrux, and Mercure,) which had not said I with fir James Saumaiez, and they were set on fire on the 18th. I rest assured that they will be paid for, and have held out that assurance to the squadron; for it an admiral is, after a victory, only to look after the captured ships, and not to distress the enemy, very dearly indeed does the nation pay for the prizes, and I trust that £60,000 will be deemed a very moderate sum; and I am bold to say, when the services, time and men, with the expense of fitting those three ships for a voyage to England is valued.

#### TO BARL SPENCER

are vilved. I rejoice, in the present instance, that a particular regard for my own interest cannot be apposed to actuate me, for if the moderate sum of £60,000 is paid, my share can be only £625: while f it is not paid, I have defrauded the Commander-in-Chief and the other classes, of the sums set off trainist them.

Commander-in-Chief .	£3750	Q.	0
Junior Admirals, each.	625	()	0
Captains, each	1000	0	0
Lieutenants' class, each	75	Ö	0
Warrant Officers, each	594	Q	0
Petty Officers, each	, II	0,	0
Seamen and Marines, each	2	4	¥

Your Lordship will do me the justice to say, that pay for prizes, in many instances, (it is not a new idea of mine) would be not only an amazing saving to the state, without taking into calculation what the nation loses by the attention of admirals to the property of the captors, an attention absolutely necessary as a recompence for the exertions of the officers and men. An admiral may be amply rewarded by his feelings and the approbation of his superiors, but what reward have the inferior officers and men but the value of the prizes? If an admiral takes that from them, on any consideration, he cannot expect to he well supported. However, I trust, as in all other instances, if, to serve the state, any persons or bodies of men suffer losses, it is amply made up to them; and in this I rest confident my brave associates will not be disappointed. I have the honour to be &c. HORATTO NELSON.

#### DISPOSITION OF WINESON'S SHIPS

# Disposition of the Ships under my Command

Vanguard, 13th August, 1798.

Varguard. Was to new masts and bowsprit, but shall defer gering them till I know the situation of Cullides. I o be careened at Naples.

Algument: When the masts are reduced and secured, to be sent down the Mediterranean, tile's particle at war, id her a month or six weeks. Gliath. One of the be sent ton Alexandria the monent Lon arrives. Main most bad

I ulous.

Sun Asure,

Emerala, Ordered o crosse oft Alexandria as long Alement, as they can with property

Alemene,

La Forture

Thata. Jour d me the moin nz.

Termshore out my Captain Dison to Naples, and from themes to make Commander-in-Chief (Ported company with May)

Transfer. Never jumen. Reported to be some to Cypius

Lion. Joined Captain Hood off Alexandria, the 25th August.

Mutine. Going down with dispatches.

Ronne Catoyenne. Gone to Naples.

Earl St Vincent. With Captain Retalick, to join the Portuguese squadror.

Portuguese Squadion. Returning from Alexandria, and requested to block up Malta.

### 'TO LADY NELSON

Ordered, when Sir James Saumarez gan between Sardinia and Minorca, to join me at Naples.

Orion, '
Defence,
Bellerophon,
Theseus,

Majestic.

On their passage to Gibraltar with the prizes.

Flora, cutter. Gone to Alexandria.

HGRATIO NELSON. .

#### To Lady, Nelson

At Sea, 16th September, 1798.

THE Kingdom of the Two Sicilies is mad with foy; from the throne to the peasant, all are alike. According to Lady Hamilton's letter, the situation of the Queen was truly pitiable: I only hope I shall not have to be witness to a renewal of it. I give you Latiy Hamilton's own words: "How shall I describe the transports of the Queen! "tis not possible:' she cried, kissed her husband, her children, walked frantië about the room, cried, kissed and embraced every person near her, exclaiming, 'O brave Nelson! O God bless and protect our brave deliverer! Nelson, Nelson! what do we not owe you! victor! saviour of Italy? O that my swollen heart could not tell him personally what we owe to him!"" You may judge, Fanny, of the gest: but my head will not allow me to tell you half; so much for that My fag, without success, would have had no effect, but blessed be God for His goodness to me. Yours &c., HORATIO NELSON.

# To the Right Honourable Earl Spenier

Naples, September 25th, 1798. May Loan, Culloden and Alexander arrived here the 16th. The former is at Castel-a Mare, where every assistance is afforded her. Alexander is fitting for two months' service, when from her battered state she must go down the Mediterranean. Captain Ball is so anxious to get at the Guillaume Tell, that she will soon be ready. He is emulous to give the final blow to the French navy in the Mediterranean (for I do not reckon, nor do the enemy, the Venetian ships as anything). I wish my friend Ball was fairly alongside of her our country need not fear the event. His activity and zeal are eminently conspicuous even amongst the Band of Brothers—each, is I may have occasion to mention them, must call forth my pratitude and admiration. On the 22nd the wreck of Vanguard arrived in the Bay of Naples. His Sicilian Majesty came out three leagues to meet me, and directly came on board. His Majesty took me by the hand and said such things of our Royal Master, our country, and myself, that no words I could use would in any degree convey what so apparently came from the Royal heart. From his Majesty, his Ministers, and every class, I am honoured by the appellation of "Nostro Liberatore".

You will not, my Lord, I trust, think that one spark of vanity induces me to mention the most distinguished reception that ever, I believe, fell to the lot of a human being, but that it is a measure of justice due to his Sicilian Majesty and the nation. If God knows my heart, it is amongst the most humble of the creation, full of thankfulness and gratitude!

which your Largeship a correct statement of the loss of the opening in the Battle of the Nile. The hand of God was vaule from the first to the last. The fate of Generous and miserable condition of Gullaume Tell arc farther proofs of it. All glory be to Him! Amen!

With my sincerest respects to Lady Spencer, the Downger I ady Spencer, Lady Lucan, and those of your Lordships family who have honoured me by their notice, and I beg you will allow me to assure you with what respect I am, your most faithful servant, Horamo Nuson.

I have this moment letters from Mr. Wyn lhain at Florence, tening me that three of the Venetian ships (645) with all in trinsports, are ready to sail from Toulon. I hope N ples is on the eve of declaring a so, I hope—but at is a district one—that the Portuguese are off Males, when all is right.

# To J Spencer Smith, Fsq., His Majesty's Minister to the Ottoman Porte

I option Occiber the 1794

Sik, By the New I tan courier, who arrived a new days ago from Constantinople, I am informed of the declaration of which the Porte against the French, and also that the lattle of the Nile has given great satisfaction to the Chiud Signior; and I take the opportunity of a council going from the Court to Constantinople, to tell you that I have directed the squadron blackading the transports in Alexandria, to remain on that service as long as possible, or till they are relieved by the Turkish fleet. Part of my squadron

sailed yesterday to blockade Malta; myself and this sail of the line will also sail in three days. , You may assure the Grand Signator that I shall be happy in co-operating to destroy the common enemy, whit are the pest of the human race. I think Coron is a good place to get duplicates of letters sent to: I am tole a courier can go in four or five days to Constantinople I do not mean to prevent letters going to Naples for the, but as I may be some time in that neighbourhood I mention the place as convenient for communicating As Sir William Hamilton will write you, I shall not mention the state of affairs here. Malta, Corfu, and those islands are my object after Egypt, and therefore I hope that the Russian fleet will be kept in the east; for if they establish themselves in the Mediterranean. if will be a bad thorn in the side of the Porte. - I am. &c., HORATIO NELSON

### To Earl Spencer

Naples, 9th October, 1798.

My Loap, Vanguard, Minoraur, Audacious, and Golisth sail on Saturday next; Culloden will get away the week following. I admit three weeks is a long time to refit a fleet after a battle, but when it is considered that nearly every mast in the fleet has taken much more time than if they had been new, that Naples Bay is subject to a heavy swell, of which we have felt the inconvenience; and that we go to sea victualled for six months, and in the highest health and discipline, I trust some allowance will be made for me. Every transport goes with me to Syracuse.

Naples sees this squadron no more, except the King

#### TO THE EARL OF ST. VINGENT

Majeste, that all the French ships shall be delivered up to me, and his Fxcellency will, I fancy, get an Article with their Covernment, that in the event of getting possession of Malta, that their Covernment, that in the event of getting possession of Malta, that it shall not be ceded to any power without the consent of his Majesty. I go to Caserta to take leave of the King on Thursday, and shall write you a time on my return. General Mack cannot move without five carriages it have formed my opinion, I heartly pray I may be mistaken.

Respecting my movements is to go off Malta, to make miself acquainted with the true state of matters there, to let e a proper force to blockade the port; then to proceed to Zante, Cephalonia, and Corfu to see what can be done; if nothing, to fly to Egypt, clap the Turks on the back, and put matters in the best train. This your Lordship will see, is only the outline. What may turn up as we get on, time only can show; but of this be assured, that I will act to the best of my judoment for the honour of my King and Country.—With the greatest truth, ever your obliged, Horatio Nelson.

#### To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Begun Ocseber 19th, 1798, ended (on the A4th).

Mr DEAR LORD, Had Leander got to you, perhaps you would have been overwhelmed with private letters

upon numerous subjects, but of which I have no copies. On the subject of our dear friend Troubridge. and on my sending Capel to England and putting Hoste into the Mutine, I should have been glad you had received my letter: on the former, it was authorizing you to add a paragraph to my public letter, if you thought it more to the advantage of Troubridge. but I then int it better to make no mention of his disaster; for I consider Captain Troubridge's conduct as fully cutities' to praise as any one officer in the sonadron, and as highly deserving reward. He comn inded a division equally with oir James Saumarez, \*by my nder of June; and I should feel distressed if any honour is granted to one, that with granted to the other. This part, I write you, may dear Lord, to make use or to Lord Spencer, should any difference be made. I know the Knight has wrote to the First Lord, but the emment services of our friend deserve the very highest rewards. I have experienced the ability and activity of his mind and body; it was Treabridge that equipped the squadron so soon at Sy,acm, -it was he that exerted himself for me after the action -- it was Tro ibridge who saved the Culloden, when none that I know in the service would have accompted it -it was Troubridge whom I left as myself at Naples to watch movements-he is, as a friend and an officer, a nonparcil!

Off Malta, 24th. The French are not likely to quit the island. The Marquis is going direct for Naples; he deserves credit for quitting his ship and hoisting his flag in another, in order to continue the blockade.

God bless you! HORATIO NELSON.

### John Spencer Smith, Esq., Constantinople

Vanguere, per Muita, October auth, 1798.

Str. Having only a left hand, I trust to your forgively ness for my making letters wrote by me as brief as possible. I have received through my friend, Captain Hood, all your most interesting letters and papers, inclosed from July 29th to September 1st. Your zeal and ability'in the arduous task of making the Porte think and act right cannot sufficiently be applauded, and will, I am sure, receive the full approbation of our gracious King. Captain Hood has told vou of his intention of remaining as long as possible on the coast of Egypt, and I was in hopes of having English ships to relieve him; but the circumstances of the war just going to begin between Naples France, in which the Emperor has promised to justice. prevent for a few weeks my sending any ships to Egypt, (where my whole heart is, for I tong to see the destruction of Buonaparte and his boosted arms mental but I hope this is of the less consequence, as doubtless the Turkish and Russian Seets are, long before this time, off Alexandria. If they have taken bomb-vessels with them, the shipping are all destroyed: and if 10,000 men, (or half the number) as I wrote you off Rhodes, Alexandria has failen, and the whole armament destroyed in a moment. Buenaparre in that case must surrender. I those heartily rejoice that our victory has given content to the Sublime Porce, and me, and when it is proper, for I am so totally ignessuat

### MOHN SPENCER SWITH, BSQ

forms at Constantinople, that I rely on your goodness to act for me. The Nespolitan Minister at Constantinople wrote to his Court that the Grand Signior had ordered a crescent as a mark of his approhation. As I have received no official communication of this circumstance, I cannot notice it. My views and instructions are as follow respecting the disposition of his Majesty's fleet, which at present consists of nine sail of the line, some frigates, and sloops.

Three sail of the line under Captain Hood off Alexandria, with two frigates. Three sail of the line under Captain Ball, with two frigates blockading the port of Malta, in which are two ships of the line, three frigates, and 4000 French troops in the towns. The rest of the island is in complete possession of the islanders. The French are suffering great distress; and time and patience will, I doubt not, put it into our hands for the King of Naples, who is its legitimate sovereign. One ship of the line is repairing at Naples.

With the two others, and two sloops, I was anxious so go to Egypt from this place, (where I am come to arrange the blockade, and to give assistance to the loyal inhabitants,) but the King of Naples has begged me so earnestly that I would be at Naples in the first week in November, the commencement of the war, that I could not refuse him, especially as my orders are to, protect the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. However, I hope soon to make my appearance off Zante, Corfu, &c. I send you a Proclamation I have wrote relative to those islands. The Porte oughe to be aware of the great danger at a future day of allowing the Russians to get footing at Corfu, and I hope the will keep them in the east.

#### TO EARL SPENCER

It will be pleasant to me to know exactly the wements of at least the Turkish naval force, and of its invention for the next three months. If I know the wishes of the Porte, and it comes within the possibility of my complying, I shall be happy in doing it.—Believe me, dear Sir, with the greatest respect, &c., HORAGO NELSON.

### To Earl Spencer

Camp, St. Germains, 13th November, 1798.

My Lord, A desire from his Majesty called me here yesterday to concert with General Mack and General Acton the commencement of the war. Thirty thousand of, Mack says, "La plus belle armée d'Europe", was drawn out for me to see, and as far as my judge nient goes in those matters, I agree, that a finer arms cannot be. In the evening we had a Council, and it was settled that four thousand infantry and six hundred cavalry should take possession of Leghorn. The infantry, (having stopped Captain Troubridge's squadron for Corfu) I shall embark in the Vanguard. Culloden, Minotaur, two Portuguese ships, (if I can get them ready, not that I see they have any wants) and Alliance store-ship. A Neapolitan ship brings the cavalry in a convoy after is. The King's order for the destination was to be given to me, and when at sea I was to give it to the General commanding the troops, who was to be totally ignorant that Leghorn was the object and not Malta, which, as a secret, was communicated to him. His Majesty approved of this plan, and Mack was to march - I repeat it with

Europe, on Saturday the 17th, to Rome, and keep advancing, trusting to the support of the Emperol. Every hour the French are accessing their Italian army, and two new generals are urused at Rome.

Thus I went to bed last night, and at six this morning came to take leve of their Maiestics. I found them in great distress, The courier who left London on the 4th his not bought any assurance of support from the Linpetor, M Tadzut is evisive, and wishes, he says, the French to be the agressors. It is appression, if this Court knows, all the world sknows, that the Liench are offering or many to overrun Nailes, in a wek distry the Monachy, plunder, and my it a Lepible A this is fully known, surely t is an appres or of the most serious nature. The Empero's room have not yet been the habit of resident kingdom, and it is easier to destroy then le to a I v noted to their Majesties directly that or of the following himse must happen to the King, and he had air croice -"Either to advince, trusting or God for Its bl ing on a just cause, to die with l'offe à la mai, ir ne quiet and be kicked out of your kingdoms' I'e King replied he would zo on, and trust in God ad desired are to stay till noon to consult with N el on this new face of affans

November 15th. I came from the Kney after dinner, and their M testies both told me that the grand stood precisely as they did before the recent of the dispatches from London and Vienna. There was evidently a great disappointment at not getting money from England. That they want it is certain, nor

#### TO BARL SPENCER

money is set forty per cent discount. I be told the Queen I did not think Mr. Put will go to Parliament and ask money of the country the present moment; that if England saw every exertion made in this country to save themselves, John Bull was never backward in supporting his friend in distress. Good God, my Lord, can the Empero submit to this?

November 18th. Last evening Lady Hamilton received a letter from the Queen full of the idea that money was indispensable, and desired her Ladyshu to show it to mr, and that I would a what I saw That I can do very soon. I see the finest country in the world full of resources, yet not enough to supply the public wants: all are plupdering who can it i public money or stores. In my own line I can peak A Neapolit a sup of the line would co t more that ten English in siting out, Five sid of the limit must run the contrary. Everything else is, I have no doubt, some in in the same system of the one I could get your Lordship so many instances of the present mal-conduct of persons in office, and or those very people be a nearth d. If money could be placed in the colic chest it the moment, I believe it would be well used; formire sad thing in this country is, that though much is raind, yet very little reache the public chest. I will give you a fact: when me Order of Jesuits was suppressed in this country and Sirily, they possessed very large estates. Although these, with every other part of their property, were served by the Crosso, pet to this moment, not on farthing has reached the public chest. On the con

trary, some years the presented expense of management was more than the produce. Taxes have been sold for sums of money, which how are five times more than when sold. This, it is true, was done by Viceroys to please their distant masters: but I am tiring your patience. In short, their Majesties, look to us for every succour, and without it they are undone.

I have wrote to the Turkish and Russian Admirals, and shall take care to keep in the very best footing with all the Allied Powers—Believe me, Sec., NLLSON.

# I'o the Right Horourable Sir William Hamilton, K.B.

Wanguard it t Decem " 1 40)

Sir, I beg leave to acquaint you that the moops of his Sicilian Mayon, how put in possession of Laghorn, there was lying in the Maria preat number of French paraseers, and once of the Maria preat number of French paraseers, and once it connectes, if permitted and from Lephora. The Neapolitan Construction is all from Lephora. The Neapolitan Construction result, under presence that the Karr of Naples is not at war with the French. I have therefore to a quest that your Excellency will demand that orders be instantly sent to the General at Legions for the secure of every French result. I to bear making those observations which the case will allow of, as I am satisfied the General means to do what he considers right for his Sovereign, even at the expense of the British cammerose.

I have also to observe that about seventy sail we vessels lacing themselves belonging to the Lig

### COMMODORE DUCKWORTH

(before called thenous) are ready to sail, der corn, for Genoa and France; and as equally at war with Great Britain as the French for I consider the self-named Ligurian Republic as at present only a province of France-I submit to your Excellency the propriety of arging the Neapolitan Government not to permit the departure of this corn from Leghorn, which must expedite the entrance into Italy of more French troops, General Naselli has, at my request, laid an embargo on all vessels, till he receives the orders of his Court. He sees, I believe, the permitting these vessels to depart in the same light as myself, but there is this difference between us—the General prudently, and certainly safely, waits the orders of his Court, taking no responsibility on hunself; I act, from the circumstance of the moment, as I feel may be most advantageous for the honour of the cause which Exerve. taking all responsibility on myself .- I have the honour to be, &c., Nelson.

#### To Commodore Duckworth

Naples, 5th December, 1798.

MY DEAR SIR, On my arrival here yesterday, I found Lieutenant Gregory who had been charged with your letters to me, but which were unluckily sent after me, to Leghorn; and as Lieutenant Gregory is very anxious to return to you, it is out of my power to answer such parts of your public letter as might require one. However, I most heartily congratulate you on the conquest of Minorca—an acquisition invaluable to Great Britain; and completely in fature prevents any

#### TO EARL SPENCER

movements from Toulon to the westward. My situation in this country has doubtless one rose, but it has been plucked from a bed of thoms. Nor is my present state that of ease; and my health, at base but indiff. forent, has not mended lately. Naples is just embarked in a new war: the event, God only knows; but, without the assistance of the Emperor, which is not yet given, this country cannot resist the power of France. Leghorn is in possession of the King of Naples' troops, as is Cività Vecchia. I have Troubridge, with Minotaur, Terpsichore, and Bonne Citoyenne, &c., on the north coast of Italy. Three sail of the line, under Ball, are off Malta; and Hood, with three sail of the line and two frigates, is in Egypt, but I expect his return every moment, and that the Turks' and Russian ships and flotilla have relieved him. I am here solus, for I reckon the Portuguese as nothing. They are all flag-officers and cannot serve under any of my brave friends! I wish you may be able to forward my letters to Lord St. Vincent. It is important for him to know our state here.-With every good wish, believe me, your most obedient servant, Nelson.

#### To Earl Spencer

Naples, 7th December, 1798.

My DRAR LORD, Ou my arrival here from Leghorn I received your Lordship's letter of October 7th, communicating to me the title his Majesty has been graciously pleased to confer upon me—an honour, your Lordship is pleased to say, the highest that has ever been conferred on an officer of my standing where next a Commander-in-Chief.

#### TO EARL SPENCER

receive, as I ought what the goodness of our severeign, and not my deserts, is pleased to bestow; but great and unexpected as this honour may be to one of any standing, yet I own I feel a higher one in the unbounded confidence, of the King, your Lordship, and the whole world, in my exertions. Even at the bitter moment of my return to Syracuse, your Lordship is not insensible of the great difficulties. I had to encounter in not being a Commander-in-Chief. The only happy moment I felt was in the view of the French: then I knew that all my sufferings would soon be at an end.

I observe what your Lordship is pleased to say relative to the presenting myself, and the Captains who served under my orders, with medals, and also that the First Lieutenants of the ships engaged, will be distinguished by promotions, also the senior Marine officer. I hope and believe the word "enaged" is not intended to exclude the Culloden in the interior that ship and her gallant Captain are too well known to benefit by anything I could say. Her misfortune was great in gerting aground, while he more fortunate companions were in the full tide of happiness. No: I am confident that my good Lord Spencer will never add misery to mistoriume, Indeed, no person has a right to know that the Culloden was not as warmly engaged as any ship in the squadron. Captain Troubridge on shore is superior to Captain salout. In the midst of his great misfortunes he made those signals which prevented certainly the Alexander and Swifts sure from running on the shoal. I beg your pardon for writing on a subject which, I verily believe that never entered your Lordship's head; but my heart as

#### O THE HON WILLIAM WENDHAM

it ought to be, is wasm to my gallant friends. Ever

# To It's Excellency the Honourble William Waudham

No. 1 + rat De cuber, 1 38. " VI DRAR SIR, Your whom a lett is of November 20th, to methis momen. Bet the netholograph and set higher value on we a friend hip than I do, for I know home as erect that you have a life more remedian the terms four land of Cong for me to lar at the cognect course the Mole in the state of the state of the state of the same of the state of the a descended or or or a serie of the in , with the derive one could not that I all the sure to mency. In wo of know the I had mency and god, is I now they at not the faster sieth s the Down district and him is not a + emprys I character sens tarchda support il, o niti; in inuitio wi, e officers seem a amed at leave sword, exercised loaded I shot. Many of the next block are a c the run away who strongs near the conny line \* ag a ! Gene al Acton berr at Rosa , I know not what orders have been sent to Creme 'Novelle, but the may depend I will do nother; which can do away, with our just demand of retribution to our merchants roboad by the French at Lezhier I irrived hi e on the 5th of December, and found my presence yay comfortable for the poor Queen. - Ever believe tries . &c., NELSON.

# To His Excellency the Grand Vizier

A pick I - kniher tolli, 1948.

Srr, I am nonoused by your Excellent v's letter, delivered to me by Kelim Effendig for which, and you kind expressions of regard, I sincerely chank you. I beg that your I simileney will lay me at the feet of the G-in Signor, and express what I feel for the great and singular honom contested upon me shich I am sensible I own to in Imperial goodness of hear, ad not to my deserts. When I first saw the French fleet, which, for near three months. I had sought in vital I prayed that it our cause it is just. I might be the Lip by instrument of the purishment exercise unbelievers of the Supreme only line God-that if it was notust, I might be killed. The Almighty took the bar e into His own hand, all with His power marked the victory as the most stomshing that ever was gamed at seal. All glory be to God! Amen! Amen!

I cannot allow he'rm Effends to depart without expression by thanks to him for the very able, dignified, and polite manner in which he has executed his mission, and I beg leave to recommend him to your Excellency's protection, as my dear friend. That your Excellency may long live in health to carry, by your wise counsels, the glory of the Ottoman Empire to the highest pitch of grandeur, is the sincere praver of your Excellency's most faithful servant, Nilson.

I send my dear son-in-law, Captain Neshit, to carry Kelim Effendi to Constantinople.

### To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Palermo, December 28th, 1798. My Lord, On the 22nd, I wrote a line to Commodore Duckworth, telling him that the Royal Family of the Two Sicilies were safely embarked on board the Vanguard, and requested him to take the first opportunity of acquainting your Lordship of this event. For many days previous to the embarkation it was not difficult to foresee that such a thing might happen. I therefore sent for the Goliath from off Malta, and for Captain Troubridge in the Culloden, and his squadron from the north and west coast of Irdiv, the Vanguard being the only ship in Nanles Bay. On the 14th, the Marquis de Niza, with three of the Portuguese squadron, arrived from Leghorn, as did Captain Hope in the Alcmene from Egypt: from this time, the danger for the personal safety of their Sicilian Majesties was daily increasing, and new treasons were found out, even to the Minister of War. The whole correspondence relative to this important business was carried on with the greatest and ess by Lady Hamilton and the Queen, who being constantly in the habits of correspondence, no one could suspect. It would have been highly imprudent in either Sir William Hamilton or myself 'to liave gone to Court, as we knew that all our movements were watched; and even an idea was entertained by the Tacobins of arresting our persons as a hostage (as they foolishly imagined) against the attack of Naples, should the French get possession of it.

Lady Hamilton, from this time to the 21st, every might received the jewels of the Royal Family, &c. &c. and such clothes as might be necessary for the very

(out)

#### TO THE EARL OF ST. VINCENT'

land party to embank to the amount, I am confider of full two millions five hundred thousand pounds sterlings. On the 18th, General Mack wrote that he had no prospect of stopping the progress of the French. and entreated their Majesties to think of retiring from Naples with their august family as expeditiously possible. All the Neapolitan navy were now taken out of the Mole, consisting of three sail of the line. and three frigates: the seamen from the two sail of the line in the Bay left their ships and went on shore: a party of English seamen and officers were sent from the Vanguard to assist in navigating them to a place of safety. From the 18th, various plans were formed for the removal of the Royal Family from the palene by the water-side; on the 19th, I received a notice General Acton, saying, that the King appropriate plan for their embarkation; this day, the som and 21st, very large assemblies of people were in commotion, and several people were killed, and one dragged by the legs to the palace. The miss by the 20th were very unruly, and insisted the Royal Family should not leave Naples; however, they were pacified by the King and Queen speaking to them.

On the 21st, at half-past 8 p.m. three barges with myself and Captain Hope, landed at a corner of the arsenal. I went into the palace and brought out the whole Royal Family, put them into the boats, and at half-past nine were all safely on board the Vanguard, when I gave immediate notice to all British merchants that their persons would be received on board every and any ship in the squadron, their effects of value being before embarked in the three English transports who were partly unloaded, and I had

directed that all the condemned provisions found to thrown overboard, in order to make room for the effects. Sir William Hamilton had also directed, two vessels to be hired for the accommodation of the French emigrants, and provisions were supplied from our vietuallers; in short, everything land been done for the comfort of all persons embarked.

I did not forget in these important moments that it was my duty not to leave the chance of any ships of war falling into the hands of the French; therefore, every preparation was made for burning them before I sailed; but the reasons given me by their Sicilia Maiesties, induced me not to burn them till the last moment. I, therefore, directed the Marquis de Niza to remove all the Neapolitan ships outside the squadron under his command, and if it was possible, to equip some of them with jury masts and send them to Messina; and whenever the French advanced near Naples, or the people revolted against their legitimate government, immediately to destroy the ships of war, and to join me at Palermo, leaving one or two ships to cruise between Capri and Ischia in order to prevent the entrance of any English ships into the Bay of Naples. On the 23rd, at 7 p.m., the Vanguard, Samnite, and Archimedes, with about twenty sail of vessels, left the Bay of Naples. 'On the next day it blew harder than I ever experienced since I have been at sea. Your Lordship will believe that my anxiety was not lessened by the great charge that was with me, but not a word of uneasiness escaped the lips of any of the Royal Family. On the 25th, at 9 24th, Princes Albert, their Majesties' youngest child, having eaten b bearty breakfast, was taken ill, and at 7 p.m. died it ille arms of Lady Hamiltong, and here it is my dity to tell your Lordship the obligations which the whole Royal Family as well a myself are under on this train; occasion to her Ladyship. They necessarily came on board without a bed, nor could the least preparation be made for their reception. Lady Hamilton provided her own beds, Inch, &c., and became their slave, for except one man, no person belonging to Royalty assisted the Royal Family, nor did her Lady hip outer a bed the whole time they were on band. Good Sir William also made every socrifice for the con.fort of the august family embarked with him. I must not only to state the kindress of Caption Hardy and every officer, in the Vauguard, all of whom readily gave their beds for the convenience of the numerous persons attending to the Royd Family.

At 3 p.m., being in sight of Palermo, his Sicilian Majesty's Royal Standard was hoisted at the main-topgallant-masthead of the Vanguard, which was kepf flying there till his Majesty got into the Vanguard's barge, where it was struck in the ship, and howed in the large, and every proper honour haid to it from the ship. At soon as his Majesty so foot on slore, it was struck from the barge. The Vanguard or the add at 2 and of the 26th; at 5, I retended her Majesty and all the Princesses on shore; her Majesty hing so much affected by the death of Prince Albert that she could not bear to go on shore in a public manner. At 9 a.m., his Majesty were on shore, and was received with the loudest acclamations and apparent joy.—I have the honour to be, &c., Nerson.

#### To a miral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Polermo, gret December, 1 705 My DEAR LORD, I do feel, for I am a man, that it is impossible for me to serve in these seas, with a squadron under a junior officer :-- could I have thought it! -and from Earl Spencer! Never, never was I so astonished as your letter made me. As soon as I can get hold of Troubridge, I shall send him to Egypt, to endeavour to destroy the ships in Alexandria. If it can be done, Troubridge will do it. The Swedish Knight writes Sir William Hamilton, that he shall go to Egypt, and take Captain Hood and his squadron under his command. The Knight forgets the respect due to his superior officer; he has no orders from you to take my ships away from my command: but it is all of a piece. Is it to be borne? Pray grant me your permission to retire, and I hope the Vanguard will be allowed to corvey me and my triends, Sir William and Lady Hamilton, to England. God bless you, my dear Lord, and believe me your most affectionate friend, NELSON.

## To Captain Sir Sidney Smith, H.M. Ship Tigre

Palermo, December 31st, 1798.

Sir, L have been honoured with your letter from off
Malta, with its several enclosures:—An extract of
a letter from Lord Grenville to John Spencer Smile,

#### CAPTAIN SIR SHOWER SHIT!

his Majesty has been graciously pleased and that your brother, Sir Sidney Smith, shall proceed to Constantinople, with the 80 gun ship, Le Tigre. His instructions shall curble him to take the command of such of his Majesty's ships as he may find in those seas, unless, by any unforeseen acrident, t should happen that there should be among hem any of his Majesty's officers of superior tank; and he will be directed to not with such force, in conjunction with the Russian and Ottoman squadrons for the defence of the Ottoman Empire, and for the annoyance of the enemy in that marter." And Earl St. Vincent having sent me an expect of a letter from Earl Spencer to him, saying that, for certain circumstances, you should be the officer selection the comman i of a small squadron in the and his Lordship having also informed me that Captain Miller was the officer of your choice, and desiring me to give you a frigate, or a sloop of wat, till Captain Miller's arrival, you may rest asserted that I shall most strictly comply with the instructions sent by Lord Granville to your brother: also those of Earl Spencer and Earl St. Vincent. For this purpose I must desire that you will lose no time in proceeding to Alexandria, to take upon you the command of the blockide, &c. which I shall direct to be delivered up to you; and, from my heart, I wish you every success. united squadrons of Turks and Russians, and of two sail of the line under your command, must be sufficient for the two slips arms en flute, and three frigates, which, thank God, are all the enemy have left in those seas. I have the honour to be Sir. your most obedient servant, NELSON.

#### To the

# Right Honourable Earl Howe, K.G.

My Lorn, It was only this moment, that I had the

Paletring, 8th Jan ary, 1709.

invaluable approbation of the great, the maniottal Earl Howe-in honour the most fluttering a sea-officer could receive, as it comes from the first and greatest sea-officer the world has ever produced. I had the happiness to command a pand of brothers; therefore, night was to my advantage. Fach knew his duty, and I was sure each would be I for a liench ship. By attacking the enemy's an and centre, the wind blowing directly along then un. I was enabled to throw what force I pleased on a tew ships. This plan my friends readily conceived by the signals, (for which we are principally, I not entirely, indebted to your Lordship) and we always kept a superior force to the enemy. At twenty-cith in inutes past six, stic in the horizon, firing comment d. At five minutes past sen, when L'Onent blew up, having burnt seventy minutes, the six van ships had surrendered I then pressed further towards the rear; and had it pleased God that I had not been woun'ed and stone blind, there cannot be a doubt but that every ship would have been in our possession. But here let it

not be supposed that any officer is to blame. No; on my honour, I am satisfied that each did his best. I have never before, my Lord, detailed the action to any one; but I should have thought it wrong to have kept it from one who is our great master in nagalitactics and bravery. May I presume to present my

To six Sidney Smith and i. Spencer Smith work best respects to Lady Howe, and to Lady Mary, and to beg that your Lordship will believe me ever your most oliged, Nelson.

#### To the Marquis de Niza

MY DEAR MARC 13, You have some Turkish slaves on board. I big, as a friend, o an English Admiral -- as a favour to mr, is a far our to a vicountry--that you will give me the slave. In doing this, you will oblige your furtful friend Netson.

# To Their Excellencies Sir Sidney Smith and J. Spencer Smith, Esq

Vanguard, Palermo, March 7th, 1799.

Graviemen, I have received a letter from Sir Sidney Smith, dated January 23rd, which consider for the most part as a letter from his Majesty's Ministers, and as such I beg have to answer it, as I shall write to Sir Sidney Smith on the subject proper for me, as an Admiral, to him as a Captain, now put under my commend. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will, upon all massions, arrange plans of operations with me, and lesire the Minister of the Sublime Porte to establish georyettes for holding a constant communication between me and Constantinople; and I beg you will assure the Porte of my anxious desire to do everything they can wish me, either by coming, or sending, under such officers as

#### to sir sidney smith mad 1. spences south . 12

I can place confidence in, such a force as the service may require. I therefore again mae that good corvetes may be win edutely sentences a keep open a constant communication.

Ciptain Sir Sidney Smuth , the officer at present destined to command the blockade of A candria, it that force, is my orders full in , thes not exceed two ships of the line. With Captan Sir Sidney Smith's zeal and call intry you are vell accounted, therefore, it is only necessary for me to say, that I shall give the strictest or fers to Six and sey Smith to do everything in his power to as st in the destriction of the French in Egypt, and, or the same time, I must desire that your Excellency will me the Pore to send Turkish and Kn war stops sometent, with Sir Sidner Smith's own slip, to attend to the a mess of Legipt; for the service is these port a reads of the force I can cellect. And I shill direct Sa Sidney land but to keep a ship, after the face is that sail if the Ing, and three or four frigates of Russians and Turks, it oh die ; his own ship.

I not this day (March 7th) received let the rom Sir Sidney Smith, in his Ministerial expantly I there. I wish that all Ministerial letters should be written and you font names; for it may be difficult for me to distinguish the Captain of the mane with the foint Minister, and the property of allerian note hight be very proper to what it in the other. I beg of your Excellency to forw I may be to the Sidney Smith, Captain of the Figure 1 has the honour to be your Excellency's most condient servant,

NELSON.

#### M'SEN'WILLIAM STONEY SHITE

## Captain Sir William Bidney Smith.

Vanguard, Palermo, 8th March, 1799.

Size I have received your letters of January 23rd, Francisco the 6th, 10th, and 23rd. Your situation as Toint Minister at the Porte makes it absolutely necessary that I should know who writes to metherefore, I must direct you, whenever you have Ministerial affairs to communicate, that it is done jointly with your respectable brother, and not mix naval business with the other, for what may be very proper language for a Representative of Majesty, may he very subversive of that discipline of respect from the different ranks in our service. A Representative may dictate to an Admiral—a Captain of a manufacture war would be censured for the same thing; therefore you will see the propriety of my steering clear, between she two situations. I have sent you my orders, which your abilities as a sea-officer will lead you punctually to execute. Not a ship more than the service requires shall be kept on any particular station; and that number must be left to my judgment, as an Admiral commanding the squadron detached by the Commander-in-Chief to the extent of the Black Sea, I shall of course keep up a proper communication with the Turkish and Russian Admirals, which no Captain of a mamof-war under my orders must interfere in. -I am, Sir, your very humble servant, Natson.

## To His Excellency The Honourable William Wandham.

Chiloden, Palermo, 22nd March, 1799.

MY DEAR SIR, The Ambassador of Buonabagte being intercepted by my friend Troubridge, on his way to Constantinople, and amongst other articles of his instructions, is a very important one—viz., an offer to enter on terms for his quitting Egypt with his army. This offer is what I have long expected the glorious Battle of the Nile would produce; but it was my determination from that moment, never, if I could help it, to permit a single Frenchman to quit Egypt.

Captain Sir William S dney Smith, who has the present command of the squadron off Alexandria, I have reason to believe, thinks differently from me, and will grant passports for the return of that part of the French army which God Almighty permits to remain. I have, therefore, thought it highly proper to send Captain Sir William Sidney Smith the order of which I transmit a copy; for I consider it nothing short of madness to permit that band of thieves to return to Europe. No: to Egypt they went with their own consent, and there they shall remain whilst Nelson commands the detached squadron: for never, never, will he consent to the return of one ship or Frenchman.

I beg your Excellency will take the earliest opportunity of sending this important information, and a copy of my letter to Captain Sir Sidney Smith, to England; and ever believe me, with the greatest respect, your obliged and faithful servant, NELSON

#### TO EARL SPENCER

# To Barl Spencer

Palermo, 6th April, 1799.

My DEAR LORD, I have to thank you for your letters of December 24th and 25th, duplicates of which I have also received by sea the same day. I am happy that everything which I have done respecting Malta, has been exactly what was wished at home. To say the truth, the possession of Malta by England, would be a useless and enormous expense; yet airy expense should be incurred rather than let it remain in the hands of the French. Therefore, as I die not trouble myself about the establishing again the Order of St. John at Malta Sir William Hamilton has the assurance from his Sicilian Majesty that he will never cede the sovereignty of the island to any power, without the consent of his Britannic Majesty. The poor islanders have been so grievously oppressed by the Order, that many times have we been pressed to accept the island for Great Britain; and I know if we had, his Sicilian Majesty would have been contented. But, as I said before. I attach no value to a for us; but it is a place of such consequence to the French, that any expense ought to be incurred to drive them out.

I have this moment letters from Captain Ball, stating the distress of the island, and his fears that when harvest comes, which will be in three weeks, they may make their peace with the French, in the belief that Sicily will fall into their hands before winter; on the other hand, the garrison is in creat distress, and eat up with the scurvy. The Bashaw of Tripoli, having made a treaty with Buonaparre, on February

Ath, and received a present of a drawond; I wrong him a letter on the subject, and sent it by the Manguard; Cap ain Hardy brought me back a letter of promise of future good conduct.

I can now get to more interesting subjects; being scusible that by a close blockade of Naples with the largest force I could collect, must prevent any French troops from being sent against the Italian armies (as they are called) in the processes, I sent my friend Troubridge, with five sail of the line, on this service, and selected him to use every tocans in his power towho areafter, order to seems the anchorage; he sailed ever he est ultimo. Y storday I had the most sacisfactory letter from him, of his complete possession of all the islands in the Ray of Naples, and of his getting possession of all the Jacobin municipality, officers, &c. Some well-timed and speedy punishments will have the happiest effects. The French are not more than 2000 troops in Naples, and about 2000 civic troops; the last are weathercocks, and will always be on the side of the conquetor. We are anxious for the promised succours of the Russian troops; ,30,000 would possess Naples in twenty-four hours. -I am, &c., NELSON.

## To Captain Ball, H.M. Ship Alexander

April 9th, 1799.

My DEAR BALL, You will have received so much of the affairs of Malta, by the Hyæna, that I need not mention the subject, except to say that I hope you will not take these arrangements to heart. You have long deserved to take it, and had the Maltese been

## THE BASEAW OF TRIPOLI

the tribute of the Crench would have done in. But, the descripted, we have rounded reflects upon you the historist honour. Tou will break the new arrangement of the Order to such of the Mattese as you choose, but the I leave to your judgment. Things wear a favourable appearance in the Bay of Naples; and if the reports are true that the Emperor's troops are near Belogna, I hope yet we shall soon again see Naples, then Malta would tall of course. It has been the successes of the Crench which have kept up the spirit of the garrison of La Valerta. God bless ye and believe me over 1 pur affectionate friend, Nelsen

I told Tyson to write you, but I could not he'p writing a line, although I am tired to d ath.

## To His Highness the Bashaw of Tripoli

Vanguardy Paterniog abih April, 1793.

Sir, When I received your Highness's lefter, by Captain Hardy, of the Vanguard, I was rejoiced to find that you had reconneed the treaty, you had so imprudently entered into with some emissaries of General Buonaparte—that man of blood, that despoiler of the weak, that enemy of all good Mussulmen; for, like Satan, he only flatters that he may the more easily destroy; and it is true, that since the year 1779, all Frenchmen are exactly of the same disposition. I had sent your letter to the great King my Master; I had done the same to the Grand Signior; for I never, believed that your Highness would say a word that was not most strictly true; a he is impossible for true Mussulman to tell—at least, I had always be-

hered so. What, then, must have been my association, ment to have heard from his Britannic Miliesty's. Consul, Mr. Lucas, that the moment the Vanguard's sailed, the French Consul and all the French, were liberated, and also the French vessels in the port allowed to fit for sea, and one, to my knowledge, had sailed for Malta? Why will your Highness be thus led astray by evil councillors, who can have no other object in view but your ruin?

Your" Highness knows that although a powerful squadron of Portuguese ships has been, since last August, under my command, that by every means in my power they have been prevented from cruising against the ships of your Highness, or from approaching your coast. It is now my duty to speak out, and not to be misunderstool. That Nelson who has hitherto kept your powerful enemies from destroying you, can, and will, let them loose upon you, unless the following terms are, in two hours, complied with-viz., that the French Consul at Tripoli, Vice-Consul, and every Frenchman, are delivered on board her Most Faithful May sty's ship Affonco, to Cominodore Campbell, in two hours from Mr. Lucas setting his foot on shore; that hostages are also sent on board, to remain till every Frenchman in the state of Triboli shall be sent off, which shall not exceed four days. N.B. There shall be no reservation or trick about the French Consul, &cc. at Tripoli. He shall be on board in two hours after the demand being made. All French vessels, or vessels pretended to be taken from the French, shall be destroyed the hours. These terms compiled with, Commodor Campbell will, as he has done upon the passage

#### THE BARL OF ST. VINCENT

refiging from taking your vessels, ustil after his arrival.

Paleitho. If these proper terms are not complised with, I can no longer prevent the ships of her Most.

Pathful Majesty from acting with vigour against

your Highness.

Your Highness will, without difficulty, write me a fetter, the substance of which will be dictated by Mr. Lucks. You will also, as a convincing proof of your detestation of the evil counsels which have been given to you by Hamet Reis, your Captain of the Port, either cause him to be delivered to Commodore Campbell, that I may send him to Constantinople, or dispose of him in such a manner, that he may for ever be incapable of giving your Highness any advice; for his heart is so black, that I am informed he can give you no good.

Your Highness will, I am confident, approve of the open and unreserved manner of this letter, and consider it as a proof of the honest, upright, intentions of the great Monarch who I have the honour of serving, and the it comes from your Highness's

attached and faithf. servant, NELSON.

#### To Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K.B.

Vanguard, Palermo, 6th May, 1799

Our friend Trombridge had a present made him the other day, the head of a Jacobin; and he makes an apology to me, the weather being very hot, for not sending it on here!

The following is a stranslation of the curious letter sent to Capitain Troubridge with the head, on which

copy Troubridge wrote: "A jolly fellow. T. Trou-

"SIR, As a furthful subject of my King, Ferdinand IV, (whom God preserve) I have the glory of presenting to your Excellency the head of D. Charles Granozio di Giffoni, who was employed in the administration directed by the infamous commissary, Ferdinand Ruggi. The said Granozio was killed by me in a place called Li Puggi, district of Ponte Cagnaro, as he was running away. I beg your Excellency would accept the said head, and consider this person as a proof of my attachment to the Royal Crewn; and I am, with due respect, the faithful subject of the King, JOSEPH MANUISO VICENTA.

"Silern", toch April, 1794"

Observations on the Armitice Concluded between the Cardinal and the French and Rebels, 24th June, 1709

(Opinion delivered before I saw the treaty of armistice, &c., only from reports met as sea.)

The armistice I take for granted is, that if the French and robels are not relieved by their friends in twenty-one days from the signing the armistre, then that they shall evacuate Naples, in this manner, infamous to his Sicilian Majesty, and triumphant to them, as stated in the Article.

All armistices signify that either party mily renew hostilities, giving a certain notice fixed upon by the

contracting parties. In the present instance, I suppose the Cardinal thought that in twenty-one days he had not the power of driving the French from the castle of St. Elmo, or the rebels from the lewer castles of Uovo and Ruevo. The French and rebels thought that if they could not be relieved in twenty-one days, they could, when unable to remain any longer, covemant to be removed to a place where they may be in a situation to renew their diabolical schemes against his Sicilian Majesty and the peace and happiness of his faithful subjects, and their rentoval to be at the expense of his Majesty; and those enemies and rebels to be protected by the fleet of his Sicilian Majesty's faithful ally, the King of Great Britain. Therefore evidently this agreement implies that both parties are supposed to remain in statu fite; but it either party receive relief from their situation, then the compact of course falls to the ground, and is of no effect; for if one party can be liberated from the agreement, it materally implies the other is in the same state. And I fare, the question need not be asked whether, if the French fleet arrived this day in the Bay of Naples, the French and rebels would adhere one moment to the armistice? "No!" the French Admiral would say, "I am not come here to look on, but to act." And so says the British miral; and declares in his honour that the arrival of either fleet, Brish or French, destroys the compact, for neither can lay, idle.

Therefore, the British Admiral proposes to the Cardinal to send, in their joint names, to the French and rebals, that the arrival of the British ficer has completely destroyed the compact, as would that of

#### DECLARATION TO NERPOLITAN JECOBINS 82

the French if they had had the power (which, thank

God, they have not) to come to Naples.

Therefore, that it shall be fixed that in two hourse the French shall give possession of the Castle of St. Elmo to his Sicilian Majesty's faithful subjects, and the troops of his allies; on which condition alone, they shall be sent to France without the stipulation of their being prisoners of war.

That as to rebels and traitors, no power on earth has a right to stand between their gracious King and them. they must instantly throw themselves on the clemency of their Sovereign, for no other terms will be allowed them; nor will the French be allowed even to name them in any capitulation. If these terms are not complied with, in the time above mentioned—viz., two hours for the French, and instant submission on the part of the rebels—such very favourable conditions will never again be offered.—Nelson.

Fondroyant,
Naples Bay, 24th June, 1799.
(Added in Lord Nelson's own hand.)

Read and explained, and rejected by the Cardinal.

# Declaration sent to the Neapolitan Jacobins in the Castle of Uovo and Nuovo

His Britannie Majesty's Ship Foudroyant, Naples Bay, 25th June, 1799.

REAR-ADMIRAL LORD NELSON, K.B., Commander of his Britannic Majesty's fleet in the Bay of Naples, at quaints the rebellious subjects of the Sicilian Majest

#### IO EVAN NEPEAN, ESQ.

in the Castles of Uoro and Minvo, that he will not permit usen only k or quit those places. They must niven to insulves to his Majesty's Royal mercy.— Netson

# 1 ord Nelson's Opinion delivered in Writing to the Cardinal

the Fondroyant and was alted a flatteer pure. A discussion of several how i during notice pure A discussion of several how i during notice place between 100 and I on School in the pice of the Sti Winn mand Lady Hamilton, who is as interpriter, but all Nelsons arguments hold to come the Cardinal that the triting was property, ten instead by the angular of the funding first field, and the triting conditions had not been executed, it requires the rate of his Sied in Many Nelson, therefore, there are not in of his Sied in Many Nelson, therefore, there are no condition, and proceeded to act effect in the maneked men condition, and proceeded to act a cording to his own views, by taking possession of the ensules, as making presents of all the Neapolitans in things, and he then invested at his own views, by the seamen and marines. This ships, under the command of Captaia Troubridge]

Foudro, ant, zoik fine, . -49.

REAR-ADMIRAL LAND NELSON prived with the British fleet the 24th. June in the Bay of Naples, and found a treaty entered into with the rebels, which, in his epinion, cannot be carried into excution without the approbation of his Sicilian Majesty.

## To Evan Nepean, Esq., Secretary to the Admiralty

Bay of Naples, June 17th, 1799.

Sin, I am this morning honoured with your letter of May 4th, with its several inclosures relative to the-

French fleet. I am happy in being able to congrasulate their Lordships on the possession of the city of Naples. St. Elmo is yet in the hands of the French; but the Castles of Uovo and Nuovo I took possession of last evening, and his Sicilian Majesty's colours are now flying on them. This morning I am going to send a detachment under Captain Troubridge, to cut down the dangerous Tree of Anarchy, and to burn it before the King's palace. The moment I can find the city a little quieted, the guns shall be got against St. Elmo, when, I am sure, the French will be glad to surrender. I transmit a copy of my letter to Lord St. Vingent, which will inform their Lordships more particularly of my situation. In my present position, I have not the smallest alarm should the enemy favour us with a visit, inferior as my force is to oppose them. -I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most spedicht servant, NELSON.

## To Vice-Admiral Land Keith, K.B.1

Boy of Maples, June 27th, 1799.

My DEAR LORD, Having detailed my proceedings to

no on with my in tements.

from low Multa: leaving to book out in that quarter, three sloops of war wife look with me was now afteen sail of two-decked ships, English, and three Portuguese, with a fire-ship and cutter. On the 20th,

Lord Notion wrote this letter to Lord St. Vincent, but seems to have changed the address, on hearing of the Earl's having resigned the command to Lord Keith.

Mallow, Portuguest corvette, brought me upon Lording's dispatch of the 17th, acquainting me of the near approach of the squadron under Sir Alan Gardner, and that Lord Keith was going in search of the French fleet. As I had now no prospect of being in a situation to go in search of the enemy's fleet, which at least is twenty-five sail of the line, and might be reinforced with two Venetian ships, although I was firmly resolved they should not pass me without a battle, which would so cripple them that they might be unable to proceed on any distant service, I determined to offer myself for the service of Naples, where I knew the French fleet intended golden. With this determination I bushed for Palermo, and on the 21st I went on shore for two hours, saw their Majesties and General Acton, who repeated to me what the General had written, (but which I had not received) to request that I would instantly go into the Naples to endeavour to bring his Sienlan Ma affairs in that city to a happy conclusion.

I lost not one moment in complying with the request, and arrived in the Bay of Naples on the 24th, where I saw a flag of truce dying on board his Majesty's ship Seahorse, Captain Foote, and also on the Castles of Uows and Muova. Having on the passage received letters informatic me that an infamous armistice was entered into with the rebels in those castles, to which Captain Foote had pur his name, I instantly gave the signal to antend the truce, being determined never to similarly approphetion to any terms with rebels but that of disconditional submission. The fleet was anchored in a close line of battle, N.W. by N. and S.E. by S., from the Mole head one and a

#### PO LORD REITH

half miles distant, flanked by riventy-two girn and mortar boats, which I secalled from Provide, "I some Captains Troubridge and Ball Instantly to the Capt dinal Vicar-General, to represent to his Eminence my opinion of the infamous terms unsered into with the rebels, and also two papers which I enclose. His Eminence said he would send no papers, that if I pleased I might break the armistice, for that he was tired of his situation. Captain Troubridge then asked his Eminence this plain question: "If Lord Nelson breaks the armistice, will your Eminence assist him in his attack on the castles?" His answer was cle. "I will neither assist him with men or guns". After much communication, his Eminence desired to come on board to speak with me on his situation. I used every argument in my power to convince him that the treaty and armistice were at an end by the arrival of the fleet; but an Admiral is no match in talking with a Cardinal. I therefore gave him my opinion in writing-viz., "Rear-Admiral Lord Nelson, who arrived in the Bay of Naples on the 24th June with the British fleet, found a treaty entered into with the rebels, which he is of opinion ought not to be carried into execution without the approbation of his Sicilian, Majesty and Earl St. Vincent-Lord Keith".

Under this opinion the rebels came out of the castles, which were immediately occupied by the marines of the squadron. On the 27th, Captains Troubridge and Ball, with 1300 meh, landed from the shift, united with 500 Russians and a body of Royalism half of whose officers are, I have every reason actions, sebels, cowards they have already promptions about the batteries are open on St. Line

#### ) EARL SPENCER

and a few days will, I hope, reduce it. The Alexander, and another are just going to resume their station off Mdia, which I am confident will very soon surrender, now all hopes of relief are cut off. I shall not fall to keep up a constant communication with non Leviship; and have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and faithful servant, Nelson.

#### To Earl Spencer, K.G.

Fo droyant,

Naples Bay, 53th fully, 1799.

My DEAR LORD, You will easily conceive my feelings at the order this day received here from Lord Keith: but my mind, and Lordship, will know by my letter sent by Lieutenant Pakinson and Mr. Sevester, was perfectly prepared for this order; and more than overis my mind unon up, that, at this mornent, I will not part with a single ship, as I cannot do that without drawing a hundred and twenty men from each ship. not at the siege of Capus, where an army is gone this day. I am fully aware of the act I have committed; but sensible of my loyal intentions, I am prepared for any fate which may await my disobedience. Capua and Gaeta will same fall; and the moment the sepundrels of French are set of this kingdom, I shall send eight or nine ships of the line to Minorca. I have done what I think tight; others may think differently, but it will be my consolation that I have gained a kingdom, scated a faithful ally of his Mujesty firmly on his throne, and restored happiness to millions. Do not think, my dear Lord, that my opinion is formed

from the arrangements of any one. No; he it good, he it had, it is all my own; It is natural I should wish the decision of the Admiralty and my Commander in-Chief as quickly as possible. To obtain the former. I beg your Lordship's interest with the Board; and in all events, I shall consider myself your Lordship's &c., Nulson.

#### To His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence

(About 13th July, 1749.)

You will have heard, Sir, and conversation will naturally acise upon it, that I have disobeyed Lord Keith's orders in not sending or going down with the squadron under my command; but, by not doing it, I have been, with God's blessing, the principal means of placing a good man and tolthful ally of your Royal Father on his throne, and securing peace to these two kingdoms. I am well aware of the consequences of disobeying my orders, but, as I have often before risked my life for the good cause, so I with cheerfulness did my commission: for although a military tribunal may think me criminal, the world will approve my conduct. I regard not my own safety, when the honour of my gracious King is at stake. The Almighty has in this war blessed my endeavours beyond my most sanguine expectations, and never more than in the entire expulsion of the French thieves from the Kingdom of Naples I am, &c., NRLSON.

#### TO LADY NELSON

#### To Lady Nelson

Naples, 14th July, 1799.

My DEAR FANNY, I have to thank you sincerely for your letters. I rejoice that you gave Mr. Bolton the money, and I wish it made up £500. I never regarded money, nor wanted it for my own use; therefore, as the East India Company, have made me so magnificent a present, I beg that £2000 of it may be disposed of in the following manner:-£500 to my father; £500 to be made up to Mr. Bolton, and let it be a Godsend, without any restriction; £500 to Maurice, and £500 to William. And if you think my sister Matcham would be gratified by it, do the same for her. If I were nich I would do more, but it will very soon be known how poor I am, except my yearly income. I am not surprised at my brother's death; three are now dead, younger than, myself, having grown to man's age. My situation fiere is not to be described, but suffice it to say, I am endeavouring to work for good. To my father say everything which is kind. I love, honour, and respect him as a father and a man, and as the very best man I ever saw. May God Almighty bless you, my father, and all my brothers and sisters, is the fervent prayer of your affectionate Natson.

### To Captain Sir William Sidney Smith

Foudtovent. Maples Bay, July 29th, 1799.

DEAR SIR, Your lessent pent by the Mary Ann, I read with a mixture of pleasure and source. I car-

nestly trust that your exercions will be crowned with success, and that Buonaparte is gone to the Devil. As Lord Keith writes to you, I shall not say much of what is passing to the west, except that the French fleet, united to the Spanish (43 sail of the line), sailed from Carthagena on the 29th of June, and Lord Keith was in Mahon on the 9th of July: My belief is, that the whole force will push into the Tagus, and carry Lisbon, and of course Portugal, by a coup. Others think Ireland will be their object; time, and a short time, must discover their plans to us. In the meantime, we can only sincerely lament that the scoundrels have escaped the vigilance of Lord Keith. Minorca is menaced; but I think will not be attacked. Our news from France is excellent; four of the Directors are arrested; Abbe Sieves is the only remaining one. The Councils have decreed the Constitution suspended; Bernadatte resigned the commissions of more than 500 principal officers: in short, (in my opinion) monarche is on the eve of being established again. In Italy, all goes on well; I hope, in fourteen days, there will not be a Frenchman in the kingdom. Tustiny will. I believe from Mr. Wyndnam's letters, be liberated in as short a time.

July 24th. Yesterday brought us letters from your worthy brother; and we had the great pleasure of hearing that your truly meritorious and wonderful exertions were in a fair train for the extirpation of that horde of thieves who went to Egypt with that arch-thief, Buonaparte. I beg you will express to good Captain Miller, and to all the brave officers and men who have fought so nobly under your orders, the sense I entertain of your and their great must

at present it is not in my power to send you even a stoop of war; for Lord Keith has ordered every ship, not absolutely negessary for Sicily, to repair to Minorca, which is menaced with an attack. think Lord Keith will follow to the Channel: if so. and when I see what is left me, (for at present everything from Sicily to Gabraltar has passed the Straits.) I shall have pleasure in giving you a small but active squattron; for, while the French remain in any part of Egypt, I see Great Britain must do everything. Could it have been thought that the Turks would never have sent reinforcements to save Egypt? As for the Russians, they have, I am sure, an object in view. Lord Keith writes me to send you stores; there is not, and his Lordship knows it, a bit of canvas, twine, board, nails, or tope in all the storcrooms in the squadron. The siege of Capua is begun; and I am sure my friends Troubridge and Hallowell will finish. it as soon as possible. The garrison is 1500 French, and a few hundred robels. I have had letters from Lord William Bestinck, who is with the Austrian and Russian army, detailing their successes. Turin is in their hands, Florence, &c.: in short, all goes as well as heart can wish.—Ever believe me, with the greatest esteam, your faithful, humble servant, Nerson.

His Excellency John Spencer Smith, Esq.

Naples, July 25th, 1799.

My DEAR SIR, I thank you wally for your letter of June 9th, containing an extract of one from your brother, who has done so much at Acre. It is like

his former conduct; and I can assure you, not one admires his gallantry and judgment more than myself. But if I know movelf, as I have never encroached on the command of others, so I will not suffer even my friend Sir Sidrey to encroach upon mine. I dare say he thought he was to have a separate command in the Levant. I first upon inquiry it was never intended to have any one in the I evant separate from me. Your coodness my dear Sir, in procuring the shawls, I feel most anally, and it I can be useful to you in any manne here, I beg you will command me, being with real resilect, &c., Net on

#### To

His Excellency John Spencer Smith, Esq.

Faire at . Naples, July 25th, 1799.

Sir, I am honome with you Exc llency's letter of Jure 9th, by way of Zantr, and observe weat you are pleased to my relative to the various councils held on the situat to a affairs. I cannot do otherwise than think it ktraoidinary that the Ministers of the Sublime Forte do not enforce that a proper force be sent to Fgyp., although I hope from subsequent information that the French have raised the siege of Acre, chiefly owing to the gallantry of English sea and artillery officers, commanded by Captain Sir William Sidney Smith, whom I wrote to this day, to express the satisfaction I truly feel for his meritorious conduct. Lord Keith having directed me to send all the force possible from the island of Sicily, it is not the my power to reinforce Sir Sidney Smith.

#### TO LORD KRITH

with manually thinks with me, that, as there is no manifold force fit to oppose Sir Sidney Smith, that two sail of the line would not be necessary, for who could have thought that the ship's company of two seventy-fours could have been wanted on shore? It has turned out fortunate; but when this service is over, I shall expect the Theseus to join men. It will be my business to take that no French fleet passes into the Levant. I beg you will assure the Porte, that, if they do, , 'all follow them. I do not recollect how I may have sent letters to the Grand Vizir, but I suppose it must have been through the same channel which conveyed the legter to me. I know the character of representative of Majesty too well to omit paying it all proper respect. The Porte not having sent me one corvette, has prevented my sending your Excellency as frequent communication as I could wish, of all the extraordinary events which are passing here. The letter from Lord William Bentinck will show you the state of the Austrian and Russian army, as Mr. Wyndham's will that of Tuscany. I beg of your Excellency to believe my desire of fulfilling the order of the great King our Master; and believe me, your faithful, humble servant, NELSON.

#### To Vice-Admiral Lord Keith, K.B.

Foudropsis, Bay of Naples, 1st August, 1799.

My Lord, I have the honour to transmit yours, copy of Captain Troubridge's letter to me, and the captulation of Capus and Gaeta. Sec. Too much seeing

cannot be given to Captain Troubridge, for his wellderful exertion in bringing about these happy events,
and in so short a space of times. Captain Hallowell
has also the greatest merit. Captain Oswald, whom
I send to England with a copy of my letter, is an
officer most highly deserving promotion. I have put
Lieutenant Henry Compton, who has served as a
lieutenant with me from January, 1796, into the
Perseus bonth in his room, and whom I recommend to
your Lordship.

I sincerely congratulate your Lordship on the entire liberation of the kingdom of Naples from a band of rathers; and am, with the greatest respect, my Lord,

' vours, &c., NELSON.

## To Lady Nelson.

Naples, 4th August, 1799.

Trank God all goes well in Italy, and the kingdom Naples is liberated from theeves and murderers. But still, it has so overthrown the fabric of a regular government, that much time and great care are necessary to keep the country quiet. The 1st of August was celebrated here with as much respect as our situation would admit. The King dined with me; and, when his Majesty drank my health, a royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired from all his Sicilian Majesty's ships of war, and from all the castles. In the evening there was a general illumination. Amongst other representations, a large vessel was fitted out like a Roman galley; on its oars were fixed lamps, and in the centre was exected a rostal column with my name: at the starn were elevant

#### TO THE PRINCE DE LÉŽZI

angles emporting in picture. In shorts in dear Faury, the beauty of the whole is beyond my lamps were suspended round the coacl. An orchestra was find up, and filled with the very best findicine, and a gers. The piece of music was in a great measure to celebrate my praise, describing their pre-Proudistress. "but Nelson came, the soundible Nelson, and they were meserved, and again made happy". This must not make von think me vain, no, far, very far from it, I relate it more from gratitude than-yanity I r turn to Palera o to-morro y with the King. May God ble s you is Bray says what is true, that I really steal time to write this letter, and my faind is ready to drop. My dear father must forgive my not writing so often as I ought. and so must my brothers, sister and friends en believe me your affectionate Netson

## 10 His Excellency the Prince de Luzzi

Palerma, 1914 August, 1799. 1

Sir, I nave this moment received the honour of your fucilency's letter, consering to me 'is oscillari Majesty's most gracious approbation of my conduct, and also, this his Majesty had been pleased to confer prom me the title of Poice of Bronté, together with the éstate stached to it. I request that your Bacellency will lay me with all hamility and full of antiquely, at his Majosty's feet, express to him the majority and that it shall be all sand that it shall be all sand the first that the different him the first shall be all sand the first shall be all the first sh

#### TO THE BASHAW OF TRITOGE

gained me his royal favours, to merit the continu-

a, I sincerely thanks your Excellency for the very handsome manuer in which you have executed the goyal commands; and believe me, with the highest respect, your Excellency's most obliged servant, Bronte Nelson.

#### To His Highness the Bashaw of Tripoli

Pilernir, Sertember 13th, 1799.

Sir, I am roid that your Highness thinks that I should have shown you greater friendship in sending a ship of war to pay you a compliment, than in the way I have employed them, but your Highness will not think so, when I tell you how the British fleet has been employed.

You will have heard that a French ffeet ventured itself into the Mediterranean, and how the British fleet has chased it into the Ocean, where I hope they will meet; and if so, I venture to assure you that the naval pawer of France will be totally annihilated. You will have heard of the total defeat of that vain fool Buonaparte by the Inglish and the brave inhabitants of St. Jean d'Acre: you will have heard of a part of my squadron taking all the French frigates and corvettes from Egypt: you will have heard of the glorious successes of Field-Marshal Suwarrow, and that an English mandron was on the coast of Tuscany and Generate support him: you will have heard that I went into the Bry of Naples, landed the people from my fleet, table the coasts of St. Elmo, Capua, and Gaeta, and

depleted that, having placed his Neapolican Majesty again on the throne, a part of my Royal Master's fleet is gone to carry the King of Sardinia and his family to his kingdom. This is the glorious work I have been engaged in, and which I should have the greatest pleasure in giving your Highness, did you want, the assistance of the show of your most faithful ally.

I am now pressing Males very haid, and it shall soon surrender. Your Highs ess will not now think I have either been neglectful of your friends ap, or been idle. Never, I entreat you Highsess, think so of your attached and fulful servant Naison.

To Lieutenant-General Sir James St. Clair Erskine, Bart., Mabon

Palermon Suptember 13th, 1794

My pear Sir James, Mar hours for your weets kind and flattering letter of September 181. It is rule, and I see with pleasure, that you do not envy the my good fortune. The field of glory is a large one, and was never more open to say one than at this morient to you. Rome would throw open her gates and eccive you as a deliverer; and the Pope would owe has restoration to the Papal Chair to an heretic. This is the first great object, as it would not only be the complete deliverance of Italy, but restore peace and trainquility to the form-to-pieces kingdom of Naples. For each an occasion, a part of the tengdom of Messina/might be tiden. The mean great object is the refluction of Malta, and in any other moment than the present. It

## TO COMMODORE TROUBRINGE

would be a most important one. Vaumers only wanter a presence to give up. His only hope in that in the next month he may exape with the thins. To return to the bisi object. I can rike upon my to say, that som King would be much much that British and now Austria should to a start the Pope. You me at perfect liberty to ay this from me for the world sees the audition of Aust a sulf her early wants to extend its wings from the Adi c to the Mean maneau. I will not say non but the I will support you to the utinot of me abilities. We not efficially intermed, but have every mason to only ve, that a vicilution is on the point of he know a frage for the resolution of Louis XVIII The accounts a calculatory of the Archdule Charles's complue a feat of M. sena, who, ha no so his terr, is died. Line of an hall switzerland is now tree. The certain zoes on direct for Gibrater, to get on a way the att the anxiety respecting them half-ke since. Into ver believe me, my deat Sir Taines, ours, are Street.

#### To Commodore Froubridge, H M Ship Culloden

I frais September , 5th, 17 gg.

My DEAR IRDUREDCE, I have only new to say, How are you? Since I wrote last, not the least thing has happened. I we vessels from Mahon, where they knew nothing of the two fleets. It has been rumoured at Baccelona that the commend fleets have arrived at Bres.; but I do not believe it, although I fear ir will be so, and overture our

#### COMMODORE TROUBRIDGE

Level expedition to Flanders, under the Duke of North. Duskworth sailed the 4th from Mahon, with five sail of the line - more than I intended to leave the island, but I have directed two to be returned. Northumberland he has left orders with Darby to keep, and send to the coast of Spain. They have comore troops in Minorca than they know what to do with. I wished Sir James St. Clah Easkene to let me have 1200 for wither the Roman State, or for Malta: but I have not been able to succeed at this moment-under presence that General Fox is hourly expected, and it would not be proper to re-sen the garrison under these circumstances, and then Sir James enters upon the d'ficulty of the nodestaking in a true soldier way. I can only say, my dear Troubridge, that I am perfectly easy about Minorca, and I see in inniediate use of sending more Ships off Malia -- herefore, you need aprilhurry, if it is of any importance, or probability of succes; attending your labours, by remaining at Civila Vecchia. If not, I shall remee to see you soon.

The Court has just got an account of Carried Goring, and you know he carried the news of the combined fleets sailing, and of their being past Cape St. Vincent. As Gore left them the 24th, and arrived in London on the 6th, in the morning—although a frigate moved as fast again as the fleet—yet, as the probability is that Lord Keith was not much, if anything, to the westward of Cape St. Vincent, when Gore arrived in London, there is but little hopes of his overtaking them, for they must have had a good wind. In England it has created a general consternation. Every small vessel

## TO ADMIRAL OUŞCHAROF \* 4 4 101

is sent forth to collect our scattered ships, and to prepare Ireland for this event. God bless you.—I am, &c., NFLSON.

Lieutenant Parkinson landed at Yarmouth on the 9th. The Courier spoke to him and Sylvester.

#### To Admiral Ouschakoff

Palermo, 45th September, 1799.

DEAR SIR, By my letters from England of August 20th, I find that the combined fleets entered the port of Brest on the 13th of that month, and the British fleet arrived off that harbour the same day. Being now, from these circumstances, left with the temporary command of the British fleet in the Mediterranean, I am more at liberty to act from myself; therefore i again take the opportunity of assuring your Excellency that it is my wish and desire that we should co-operate and join together most cordially for the benefit of the common cause, and, as it is my duty, I shall be as open to you as our two Sovereigns are to each other. I shall rejoice most cordially when we can go against Malta; for I am satisfied it is not to be taken without more force against it. When the Culloden and Minotas return, I shall go to Minorca for a few days, to look at its naval protection, and to endeavour to induce the commanding General to lend us a few troops, mortars, stores, &c., against Malta or Cività Vecchia. I beg my sincere regards to the Chevalier Italinsky, and that you will believe me ever, your Excellency's obedient servant. BRONTE NELSON.

### TO COMMODORE TROUBRIDGE

# To Evan Nepean, Esq., Admiralty

Six, I have desired Commodore Troubridge to send you for the information of their Lordships extracts of all his leiters to me, with the terms entered into with the French for the evacuation of the city of E me and Cività Vecchia, on which event I sincerely congratulate their Lordships; and am, Sir, with great respect, Mcc., NELSON.

### To Commodore Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart.

October 181, 1799.

My PEAR TROUBRIDGE, Most affectionately do I rejoice in the honour the King has conferred upon you, and you may depend that if the morines can be got at, ther will be at your service. General Acton sent me a letter this morning detailing what you have done at Civica Verchia, but as no dates were stated I can only hope that you have done the job. If it is necessary to leave a few of your and Louis's marines, do it, and one or two of the small craft, for the protection of the trade. I want certainly all the line-of-battle ships, and such of the small craft, as are not absolutely wanted there. My intention is, to go almost directly to Minorca, and arrange a proper naval defence for that island, and to try to get troops to finish the business of Maltawhich the French intend to relieve. Five polacies. and two Venetian ships are loading provisions and

stores. Therefore, I want to fix our ships on the spot most likely to intercept them: at Lampedosa, and Cape Bon, and in the track from Toulon to Ajaccio. These are my ideas; for as to blocking Toulon for so few ships, they would escape, the first north-west wind, if the whole fleet was there. I need only say that these are my objects, for you to support me, which it is my pleasure always to acknowledge.

I send you an order respecting the re-establishing the Sovereign Pentiff, as far as my power extends. Great Britain only, (I hope) wishes to see all things as they were before the war. I send you a little. bread; to say the truth I have been expecting you so long that it has been deferred from time to time. If the place has not fallen, and you think it useful to keep the blockade, I leave it to you. Captain Mundy is this moment arrived. I am confident, my dear friend, that you have acted to the best manner for all parties. I have only to repeat that you have my ideas of what is necessary to be done, and you will come as soon as you can; for our business is never done. I have sent to General Acton, as the Pope is dead, whether the Pope's colours ought to be hoisted. At this moment therefore be guided by Actou's order; but always hold out that our country has no object but the good of all Europe. I desire you will say to Mr. Nepean, that in obedience to orders from me, you send extracts of your letter to me, and the capitulations, &c.; for I am the temporary Commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean. May God bless you; and remember me to Louis and all with you.- Believe me, your affectionate, NELSON.

### FIR WILLIAM SIDNEY SMITH

what I feel.

### To Captain Sir William Sidney Smith, H.M. Ship Tigre

Palermo, October 24th, 1799.

My DEAR SIR, When I arrived here yesterday from Mahon, (having been down the Mediterranean to look out for a French and Spanish squadron which had been on the coast of Portugal, but returned to Ferrol,) I received all your letters by the Turkish corvette, which is arrived at Messina. The details you have given me, although unsuccessful at Abouting will, by all military men, ever reflect on your and your brave companions the highest honour; and I beg you will tell all those whose conduct you have so highly approved, that their merits (even of the lowest) will be duly appreciated by will and for which reason I have given all the promotion, and shall contime to do it, if they deserve it, amongst them. All the arrangements for your young men are filled up as you desired, and, my dear Sir, you shall ever find, that although I amajealous of having a particle of my honour abridged, yet that no Commanding Officer will be so ready to do everything you can wish. We have but little here of stores; but I have stripped the Foudroyant of everything. At Mahon there is mothing; but your demands, with a bare proportion for the Theseus, go to-morrow for Gibraltar: and although I am pretty sure you will

not receive half what your ships want, I shall targe.

Inglefield to send you everything he can.
You will have heard, probably, that Lord St. Vincent still retains the Mediterranean command, and that I am, by order, acting till his return—therefore, I have not the power of giving commissions, for anything more than acting orders. As to getting Neapolitan gun boxes to you, there are many reasons against it. In the first (place), they have none for such a voyage: this is enough; but, was not this sufficient, it would be a thing impossible. I believe we are as bad a set to deal with, for real service, as your Turks. Mr. Harding has sent me word he does not choose to return to Payps, for which he is a fool. Your brother well, of coarse, sell you all our good news from Holland and Germany, and I hope the King of Prussia has joined the Coalition. May peace, with a monarch, in France, be soon given to us. I have just got a report that appears to have some Toundas tion, that Beonaparte has passed Corsica in a bombard, steering for France. No Crusader ever returned with more manifity -- contrast his going in L'Orient, &c. Again, be assured, that I place the greatest confidence in all you do; and no Commanding Officer shall ever have more attention to all your wants and wishes, than will your, &c., Nelson.

Should it so happen, after all that I can do, that Mr. Penny still wishes to give up the Tigre—if you have any young man that you wish provided for in that line, send him to me, and I will give him a good sloop to begin, and advance a purser of a smaller ship than yours to the Tigre.

### To Lieutenant-General Sir James St. Clair Erskine, Minorca

Palerme, October 26th, 1796.

My DEAR SIR JAMES, I am in desperation about Malta-we shall lose it, I am afraid, past redemption. I send you copies of Niza's and Ball's letters, also General Acton's, so that you will see I have not been idle. If Ball can hardly keep the inhabitants in hopes of relief by the 500 men landed from our ships, what must be expected when 400 of them, and four sail of the line, will be withdrawn a And it the Islanders are forced again to join the French, we may not find even landing a very easy task, much less to get again our present advantageous position. I therefore entreat for the honour of our King, and for the advantage of the common cause, that, whether General Fox is arrived or not, at least the gard sor of Messina may be ordered to hold post in Malta until a sufficient force can be collected to attack it. which I flatter myself will in time be got together; but while that is effecting, I fest our being obliged to goi, the island; therefore I am forced to make this representation. I know well enough of what officers in your situation can do the delicacy of your feelings. on the near approach of General Fox I can readily conceive: but the time you know nothing about: this is a great, and important moment, and the only thing to be considered is his Majesty's service to stand still for an instant? I have no scruple in decharing what I should do knowing the importance of possessing Malta to England and her allies, that

feet memoris were ofdered from Manorca, in the considered, (for which the officers entainly must be considered,) was the call for these teems known at home, would they not order them a proceed where the sevice near at had I loudly the for theme this is the only thing in my opinion exconsideration. It we lose this opportunity it will a impossible to recall to If possible, I wish to take the tree responsibility.

I know, my deal Sir Janes, y mir zeal and ability, and it it demeace to General Ioc has been your sole notive for not also not it is position of the troops, but I hope Gen it Iox is with you, and I am sure, read by characti, he will proje of my feeling on the ubject. If he is not I must arise extrestly extreat, it least, you will give directions for Colonel Graham is lold. Make this we can get troops to attack La saletta. May Good directly a recursely for the honour of our King and he alhes, and it the destruction of the Eigench, is the faircent present of yours, &c., Naison.

## To Commodore Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart

Pale ma, Outsher noth, 1799.

My DEAR TROUBLIDGE, My letter to Sir James St. Clair Fiskine, if this finds you at Mahon, will show you what I feel about Malta. I hope the General will give troops to at least hold possession till we can get a oree to antack La Valetta in a regular way. I have interested and ordered Niza not to just his post, or wishdraw a man from the shore till I can get tro

### TO THE DUKE OF CLASSING

Profits of your notice. He will tell you of all my arilious work in this country, and that all my anxiety is an present taken up with the desire of possessing Malta. But I fear, norwithstanding all my exercions. that I shall not get any British troops from Minnera. without which the business will be prolonged, perhaps till it is relieved, when all the force we can collect would be of little use against the strongest place in I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of General Fox, and hope he will not consider the order for the removal of one or two regiments, of such great consequence as the reduction of Malta, by keeping them for two months langer in the Mediterranean. On the one hand, they must, in England, or on the Continent, be like a drop of water in the ocean. By staying here, and employed, they would liberate us from our enemy close to our door wife the Emperor of Russia, protect our Levent week, and relieve a squadron of our ships from this service; besides giving us one 80-gun ship, two to-gun frigates, a Maltese new ship of the line ready for sea, and two frigates. With these in the scale, I cannot compress hend that a moment can be lost in deciding; but, Sin I find few think as I do-but to obey orders is all perfection! To serve my King, and to destroy the Erench. I consider as the great order of all, from which little ones spring; and if one of these little ones militate against it (for, who can tell-exactly at a distance?), I go back to obey the great order and object, to down, down with the French villains. Excuse my warmth; but my blood boils at the name of a Frenchman. I hate them all-revalists and Republicans.

My lase detters from Egypt aren that Sir Sidney

Smith is hart in the state and its cowardice and make discipline in the state array, and find a General Kochler does not appear of such irregular processings as mail others at the array and defending fortifications. We have but a sailor would have placed a battery only a hundred and eighty yards from the castle of St. Elmo; a soldier must have gone according to art, and the ZZ way; my brave Sir Thomas Troubridge went straight, for we had no time to spare. Your Royal Highness will into believe that I mean to lessen the conduct of the army; I have the highest respect for them all; but licental Kochler should not have wrote such a paragraph in his letter: It conveyed a jealousy, which I dare say is not his disposition.

May health and every blessing attend your Royal Highness is the constant prayer of your attached and

obliged servant, BRONTE NELSON.

### To the Commissioners of the Victualling Board

Vaterray, November 14th, 1799.

CENTREMEN, I have received by post your answer to my letter from the Pay of Naples, in which you beg me to accept your acknowledgments for the trouble. I had taken in investigating the report made by Mr. Look, on the subject of the purchase of freshabets. I must own, that I conceived your letter counted in terms of such coldness, as a little surprised me; that it was not till this moment of the departure of Capital Hardwighat I have heard a report, circulated by Mr.

with you had received a letter from him on this bjec, and that you had thanked him for having saved the arment 40 per cent. If it is true, which I cannot believe, that you have wrote Mr. Lock any letters on this subject, I desire to say, and not to be misunderstood, that the conduct of the Board is very reprehensible, and scandalous in its treatment to me, the Commanding Officer of his Majesty's fleet in the Mediteranean. I hope you will send these expressions to our superiors, the Board of Admiralty; for if it is true, which I cannot believe, it would make it more scandalous not to have sent me copies of these letters. I will never, for any power on earth retract a syllable of what I have wrote in this letter. I defy any insinuations against my honour. Nelson is as far from doing a scandalous or mean action as the heavens are above the earth. I will now tell you the result of the inquiry of an honest man, a faithful servant of his. I and and Country, was, (from the papers I sent to your Board,) that the accusation of Mr. Lock was malicious and scandalous; and if any Board or individual apply any softer terms to the papers sent you by me, I desire to apply the same terms to them.

I have ever treated all Boards, and every individual, with the greatest respect and consideration; but when my honour, or that of my brave friends, is concerned, I will never stop till the examination is made; for Mr. Lock would not, or could not (which I believe), but both are equally criminal, bring forward any single point of accusation. I therefore demand that you will direct (subject to my inspection) a strict and impartial inquiry to be made into this saving of 40 per cent. I have only to observe, that Mr. Lock never made any

complaint of the print, until I wrote that the that sold the best and the peeps would, of county the seiler. I have desired Captain Hardy wall and county Board on this subject, as he was captain of the foundaryant at this time, and knows perfectly well my orinion of Mr. Lock. I had every inclination to serve him, but never at the expense of the state, by giving a monopoly against a competition.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servale,

BRONTE NELSON.

# To His Excellency the Honourable William Wyndham

Palermo, 26th October, 1799.

Sir, I have to request your Excellency will have the goodness to forward the two letters sent herewith. Yesterday, an order came from General Fox for the garrison of Messina to proceed to Malta, and as the Russians are destined for the same object, I hope we shall very soon be in possession of it. But, from the slowness of the movements, I have great fears that the French may have made a sortic, and that our batteries will, at least, be destroyed, if nothing worse happens. His Sicilian Majesty, I am sorry to say, will not, at this moment, return to Naples; but as Ancona is, we hear, taken, we hope it will expedite his Majesty's departure. I have nothing from Egypt for some months.—Believe me, with great respect, itc., Baonti Nelson.

### To the Right Honourable Earl Spencer, K.G.

Palermo, 28th November, 1799

My DEAR LORD, I am writing a letter to you on the subject of our situation with the Barbary States. but I shall not keep the Perseus, by detaining her a moment with this fine levanter. I hope Ball will be able to hold fast a little longer. All the marines from the Foudrovant are on shore at Malta, and nothing has been wanting on my part to second his truly meritorious exertions. The Margus de Niza has the greatest merit in obeying my orders, in direct disobedience to these of his Court, but by his letter of the 19th -I fear by the advice of some of his English Commodores—he may be induced to quit Malta, which would be ruin to us in that island. He has quoted Sir James St. Clair Erskine and Colonel Graham as a justification of his obedience of orders; for they would not, he says, disobey their orders to save Maltatherefore, why should he? But as he would, about that time, receive from me a stronger order and requisition, if possible, than ever, holding out the certain displeasure instead of approbation of his Royal Highness the Prince of Brazil, should he obey, in this critical moment, the order to proceed to Lisbon, I trust he will remain. Commodore Sir Thomas Troubridge will relieve him, and all will then be well.

In General Fox's orders to General Graham, he says, "You will not incur any expense for stores, or any article but provisions". What can this mean? But I have told Troubridge that the cause cannot

network still for ware of a little money. This would be mental we still penny wise and pound facility. If neededy will pay it, I shall sell Bronte and the imperor of Russia box; for I feel myself above every consideration but that of serving faithfully. Do not, my dear Lord, let the Admiralry write harshly to me my generous soul cannot bear it, being conscious it is entirely unmerited; and ever believe me your obliged, Bronte Nalson.

### To the Governor of Barcelona

Mahon.

Six. We demand from your Excellency the exchange of all his Britannic Majesty's subjects, our Royal Master. in which we not only include all Minorquins, but also all those who may have been captured under the British flag, and carried into the ports of Spain: in particular, we claim the exchange, by this flag of truce, of Mr. Jeremiah Motter, an inhabitant of Minorca. In making these just demands, we expect an instant compliance. We announce to your Excellency, that the severest retaliation shall take place; thus your Government will open such a dreadful scene of warfare as has mever yet dispraced Europe, for which they will receive the execration of all good men in this world, and eternal damnation in that which is to come. We reserve to ourselves the right of thinking Mr. Jeremiah Motter has been murdered, if he is not returned by this flag of truce; the consequences must be dreadful to many thinking heart: therefore, we again warn you to touch a hair of his head. It has, we assure good a

#### TO EVAN NEPEAN, ESQ.

They given us great pain to have occasion to write with terrer to a Spaniard whose bonour has hitherto beer unturnished, and we only hope that it will ever remain so, and are your Excellency's most obedient servants. BRONTE NELSON.

## To Evan Nepean, Esq., Admiralty

Palermo, December Jeth, 1799";

Siz, I have this moment a letter from Commodore Troubridge, telling me that the Culloden and Foudroyant arrived with the two British regiments from Messina on the 10th. I trust this force will, at least hold our present advantageous post, till a proper force can be got together to attack La Valetta. sians had not left Naples on the 9th, and it was thought it would be five or six days before they sailed for Messina. On every account, I am anxious for this business being finished. Our ships are torn to pieces the Audacious has the knee of her head loose, and the wreiched state; the Lion as bad, and the Alexander a present absolutely anable to keep the sea; the Culleden although my brave friend never complains, is in such a state, that, for the world, I would not send her to see by herself. I have had yesterday a very strong call for a Phish squadron on the coast of Genoa. I see the inecessity of one as well as any man in Europe, for the Russians do nothing by seas therefore, if their Lord ships expect any active sea operations from them, they will find their mistake. Captain Martin was relieved by an Admiral, two sail of the line, frigates, &c.; they have never yet been on the coast since last September but I will try and get a small squadron for that service

I was anxious to get more ships off Cadiz, since the departure of Admiral Duckworth; but at this moment is is not possible, from the circumstance of General Fox's orders to General Graham. In addition to my other occupations, I am a Commissary fer our troops. I have pledged Bronte for 12,000 ounces, if any difficulties arise in the payment; and I am obliged to beg 2 an individual, of the Government, for those necessary stores, without which our troops would stand still, and which are not sent from Minorca, or allowed to be purchased. The Emperor of Russia's magnificent box is ready to go to market, in order to assist in placing the Grand Master of Malta in his scat of government. As to royself, I can see, and that is all I can say; therefore, having not been placed in a situation of those who are Commander in Chief, I want many of those helps which they possess, and this must plend my excuse with their Lordships, if I appear wanting in attention. I have the horour to be, &c., Bronk Nelson.

# To the Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin

Paleimo, 21st December, 1799 ..

My Lord, I was honoured with your letter of November 28th, by Captain Morris, and I did not fail to pay immediate attention to your good wishes for him, by sending him directly off Cadiz, calling in his way down the Mediterranean, at Tunis and Algiers, to land two officers sent by the Capitan Pacha, with the dispatches. They were lodged in this house during their very short stay here; and your Lordship will be so

Leson the Ottoman Minister, that by this lesson the person for Tunis is arrived at his destination, and they do me but justice in believing that I am always alert to do them every kindness, for as no man ever received greater favour from the Sublime Porte, so no one shall be more grateful.

I have regretted sincerely the escape of Buonaparte; but those ships which were destined by me for the two places where he would certainly have been intercepted, were, from the Admiralty thinking, doubtless, that the Russians would do something at sea, obliged to be at Malta, and other services which I thought the Russian Admiral would have assisted me in-theratore, no blame lays at my door. The Vincejo, a few days ago, took a vessel from Egypt with General Voix and seventy-five officers, mostly of Buonaparte's staff; and also Captain Long was happy enough to save the dispatches, which were thrown overboard, but with an insufficient weight to instantly sink them. I send you copies of all those which you have not got. (Apropos, your dispatches went for Gibraltar the day of the Phaeton's arrival, 17th December.) I hope that your recommendation for the Vizier's pushing on in Egypt will be duly attended to, and I have no doubt that the campaign will end in the destruction of the French.

I shall endeavour to get some ships on the coast of Africa, to watch for any small vessels going with applies to Egypt; but the Porte may rest assured that the enemy have no ships in Toulon, able to carry any useful reinforcement of men. I own any hope yet is, that the subline Porte will never permit a single Frenchman to quit Egypt; and I own misself wicked enough to wish them all to die in that country they chose to

### LORD LETTE

invade. We have scoundrels of French enough in Europe without them, We have nothing from English land since October 24th: being in a corner, we are forgot. I cannot get the Russian Admiral to make from Naples. He was to let c sailed the 17th Most vember. I hear that General Prince, W. 15 very much displeased. Our troops to had there on the 10th, and are impatiently waiting their arrival. The fall of Maltawould enable me instantly to attend to all the services. required of me. The Austria r generals in the Riviera" of Genoa c'll Joudly for a naval co-operation from mest aichough the Russians have an Admiral and squadron on that oase. I do of think the application to the Court of Portugal, for the release of the Algerines, can be listened to; for I should be very sorry to see the doctrine establish d that free ships make free goods. Last war, the circumstances of our situation forced us to acquiesce; but this viewe take the enemy's property, where or we find it. I again take the liberty of repeating that it is contact to my opinion, allowing le Frenchman com Lyapt to return to France during the war. It would be a paper I would never subscribe to; but I submit to the better judgment of men, - knot, or had, believe me, &c., Bronis NELSON.

#### To Vice-Admiral Lord Keith

Fonds is and at Sea, of Cope de Corvo, eight leaguest west of Cap. Pusaris, off shore four miles. 18th February, 1800.

My Lord, This morning at daylight, being in company with the Northumberland, Audacious, and El Corso, brig, I saw the Alexander in chase of a line of

#### TO LORD KEITH

ship, three frigates, and a corvette. At about filgates, which struck her colours, and leaving her to be secured by the ships astern, continued the chase. I directed Captain Gould of the Audacious, and the El Corso brig, to take charge of this prize. At half-past one p.m., the frigates and corvette tacked to the westward: but the line-of-battle ship not being able to tack without coming to action with the Alexander. bore up. The Success being to the leeward, Captain Peard, with great judgment and gallantry, lay across his hawse, and taked him with several broadsides. In passing the French ship's broadside, segeral shot struck the Success, by which one man was killed, and the Master and seven men wounded. At half-past four, the Foudroyant and Northumberland coming up, the former fired two shot, when the French ship fired her broadside, and struck her colours. She proved to be the Généreux, of seventy-four guas, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Perrée, Commander-in-Chief of the French naval force in the Mediterranean, having a number of troops on board from Toulon, bound for the relief of Malta.

I attribute our success this day principally to the extreme good management of Lieutenant Wilham Barrington, who commanded the Alexander in the absence of Captain Eall; and Jam'much pleased with the gallant behaviour of Captain Peard, of the Success as also with the alacrity and good conduct of Captain Martin and Sir Edward Berry. I have sent Lieutenant Andrew Thompson, First Lieutenant of the Foudroyant, to take charge of the Genéreux, whom I beg leave to recommend to your Lordship for promotion, and have

### TO LORD KEITH

sent her under the tare of the Northinkerhold and Alexander to Syracuse, to wait your Lordship and office. —I have the henour to be, &c., Trower's Nauron,

### To Vice-Admiral Lord Keith, K.B.

Or Milta, February 24th, 1800.

My DEAR LORD, I call no more stay fourteen days I mget her, than fourteen years. I am absolutely ex-I usted, t eretore I have been obliged to write you a public leter. A to the state of the Foudroyant, nothing but the aigencies of the service has prevent d her being reflete a months ago. This very day is a sufficient proof to me that she cannot keep the sea, even if the main topmast stins, which I doubt, in a severe rale But her mean , but he standing and runnin , must be ourhailed, every hir ranes way. But I sene Six Fdwa I Berry, and submit to your decision as to the ship, to myself you will not, I am ure, object. The-Northumber in I and I'l Corso word have been ticausit on, instead of the Audacions, I in, or Alexander, or 5tr mbol who is uscless as a cruiser But I wish not to complime but my incapacity as to health I feel; and, as a seaman, I think the Foudroyant most be refuted. - Ever, my de et Lord, &c., Bronte Nelson.

### To the Right Honourable Lord Minto

My DEAR LORD, No person in this world values your friendship more than myself, and so I ought, because no one has taken more pains to make the noticed in

### ro this autio

than yourself. You, my dear friend, will to hear first it has been my extraordinary sport of the capture the Genereux, 74, bearing the day of Rear-Admiral Perice, and a very large store-ship with 2000 troops, and provisions and stores for the relief of La Valetta. I came off Malta with my Com mander-in-Chief. Lord Keith: we parted company is bad weather the same day. Having information tha such a squadron had sailed from Toulon, ord K. re mained off Malta; but with my knowledge of their track (rather my knowledge of this country from sever years' experience) I went towards the coast of Barbary where three days afterwards I fell is with the gentle men; those ships which fell in with me after our sepa ration from the Commander-in-Chief attached them selves to my fortune. We took them after a long chase, four miles only from Sicily, and a few league from Cape Passaro. Perrée was killed by a shot fron the Success frigate, Captain Peard. His ship struck when the Foudroyant fired only two shot; this, my dear Lord, makes nineteen sail of the line and fou Admirals I have been present at the capture of, thi Ought I to trust Dame Fortune any more? he daughter may wish to step in and tear the mother from I have in truth serious thoughts of giving u active service—Greenwich Hospital seems a fit retrea for me after being evidently thought unfit to command in the Mediterranean. The Emperor of Russia has jus granted my request for a Cross of Malta to our dea and invaluable Lady Hamilton, also, of an Honorary Commandery to Captain Ball of the Alexander, who has with so much abiliar governed Malta for these las sixteen months. This fortunate capture I consider so

much for the inverest of the Grand Master, that I have presumed to send Admiral Perree's sword to be laid at his feet.

Being here, I am deprived of the pleasure of seeing your letters to Palermo. The Queen, my dear Lord. has a thorough and implicit confidence in your friendship, and my Lady and myself assure her of your real concern for her interest. We have been, and are, trying everythings to induce the King to go to Naples, but hitherto in vain. I almost doubt Actor's sincerity as to wishing him, yet he appears as anxious as any of us: the Junto of State are as bad as the Cardinal-ull are open to the foulest corruption, and the presence of a Monarch was never more necessary to heal the disorders of a kingdom. For some cause, which I do not understand, the pardon and act of oblivion is not yet issued, although I know it has been signed near three months; the heads of a whole kingdom cannot be cut off, be they ever such rascals. I hope that all matters are arranged between the two Emperors, for the Emperor Paul says, in his letter, that the Prince Volkonsky with three bartalions of grenadiers shall come bare. If Lady Minto is with you, I beg my very best respects; and whatever fate awaits me, or however much I may be forgot by others, yet believe this is true, that I shall ever feel myself your obliged and affectionate, BRONTE NELSON.

### THE PAPITAN PACHA

### His Excellency the Capitan Pacha

Palermq, 31st March, 1809.

Sim. By the arrival or your Excellency's courrier, I have been honoured with two letters, both of which I have transmitted to Lord Keith, who at present tommands the British fleet in the Meditenanean; and I can assure your Excellency that there is notothe smallest cause of alarm, even should the whole combined fleets of the enemy venture into the Mediterranean; but, in my opinion, they will not again come inside the Straits. Respecting the second part of your letter, the sen ing ships to Egypt to escort the French army to France, 1 have left my Commander-in-Chief to answer that part of your Excellency's letter. But I cannot help regretting, and with the deepest sorrow, that my such tretty should have been entered into with the French invaders and despoilers of the fairest provinces in the Ottoman Empire, more especially as I own I see not how it is possible to fulfil the treaty; for one ally cannot have the power of getting rid of an enemy's vanquished army, by sending them with arms in their hands to fight against a friend. Could I have been fortunate enough to have been either at the camp of the Grand Vizier, or with your Excellency, it would have been easy to convince you that no ally could consent to receive 16,000 troops to fight against them. I regret in the extreme that the Foreign Ministers at the Sublime Porte did not make proper representations of the impossibility of permitting the return of such an army, but as prisoners of war, as must be obvious to every capacity. But situated as I am at this moment in the Mediter-

### TO EVAN MEREIN, 180

ranean fleet, my station is only to obey the course of my Commander-in-Chief. I rejoice to hear the your Excellency enjoys good health, and I trust the time will come when I can assure you in person with what respect and attachment I feel myself your faithful friend, Bronte Nelson of the Nile.

### To Evan Nepean, Esq, Admiralty

Palermo, April 4th, 1800.

SIR, I have received no official reports, but I have letters from Commodore Troubridge, Captain Dixon, and Sir Edward Berry, telling me of the capture of the William Tell on the morn of the 30th of Maich, after a gallant defence of three hours. The Lion and Foudroyant lost each about forty killed and wounded; the French ship is dismasted, the French Admiral Decres wounded, the Foudroyant much shattered. I send Sir Edward Benry's hasty note.

Thus, owing to my brave friends, is the entire capture and dest uction of the French Mediterranean Elect to be attributed, and my orders from the great Earl of St. Vincent fulfilled. Captain Blackwood of the Penelope, and Captain Long of the Vincejo, have the greatest merit. My task is done, my health is finished, and, probably, my retreat for ever fixed, unless mother French fleet should be placed for me to look ther.—Ever, SH, your most obedient humble servant. Brown of The Nile.

On quitting the Foudroyant, Lord Nelson received this letter from his barge's crew:

My Loan, It is with extreme grief that we find you

with the state is the harmonic of the miserial most in the state in borbins and land; which will be an in borbins and land; which is most humbly beg of your Lordship romaining as to most humbly beg of your Lordship romaining as to look any way that may seem most ide sing to you Lordship. My Lord, part on the rate of e of seamer, but little acquained with a string, and believe us to be, my Lord, your ever humble and obedant servants,

Lakue Crew of the

FOI DEGYANT."